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be ever without end.

19 JV 77  
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with other Matters concerning Christ's Re-  
urrection, and most Glorious Ascension.



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*If these Grand Truths, don't ev'ry Humour fit,  
Let Fops like me, ne'er nibble more at Wit.*

By W. B.

LONDON, Printed for William Spiller, next against the Cross-Keys in Red-Lyon-street, near the Fields, Ball-court. 1700. Price bound 1 s.





( )  
TO THE

Good, Honourable, and Chearful,

Courteous Reader,

**S** Ince in this Curious and Critical Age, many do pretend to Wit and Ingenuity; the Stage being thronged, the Press o'pressed, and not a Coffee-House but what is unreasonably smok'd with the fumes of hot working Brains, whose only hopes and Designs are either to Prattle, or scribe themselves into Reputation; and seeing every Body now a Days has an inclination at some time or other to Love, stirb, and Goodness: I therefore Hum-ly present These for your Pleasure, and my own Profit. For let others pretend Infor-mation, Instruction, or Obligation to friends, or Countrymen, or what they please; I must beg their Pardon, if I cannot screw up my Faith to believe them: For

( )  
will sway the World; So that I think  
there's no need of an Epistle to convince  
you of it, yet Custom calling for one.

These following Novels and Jests then  
take, some of which being Acted in our  
Country are New, True, and Pleasant, be-  
ing never before made publick in Print.  
So if a Toothless censure should fasten upon  
the Shoulders of my Reputation for them,  
and my Credit ranckle by the Venom there-  
of, by some carping Zoilus, or severe Cato  
I leave it to your Candor, to Judge and  
Censure, knowing that if you delight your-  
self with Ingenious Fancies; you may then  
I hope, find some in this to answer your  
Expectation: But if there be any that ought  
to be expunged, pray pass them by, and let  
the Merits of the majority atone for their  
Defects; Some I must confess are Transla-  
ted out of French, and Borrowed, though  
Retrenched, Polished, and Refined: So  
if their Plot be dull or bad, pray impute  
the blame to the sterility and dulness of  
Monsieur's Fancy, and not to mine. I  
hope none of these either may, or will in-  
terfer with Religion, or Good Manners;  
and I think it needless to advise you how  
and at what time to delight the Appetite.

of your Company with these; Since every  
one cannot but know that the proper season  
for them is, when the Mind is unbended:  
So that digestion may be assisted by Mirth  
of this Nature; but they must not be  
made the subject of Discourse, but only  
conveniently larded or intermixed there-  
with, to season it the better; neither must  
they be used, or take place where Sickness,  
or Sorrow have dominion. This then  
having nothing in it, which exceeds the  
rules of Modesty, is therefore the more  
reasonably adapted to Youth, the better to  
enable them to enter into, and behave  
themselves Wittily and Ingeniously in good  
Company without (if it be possible) gi-  
ving offence to either Sex. I offer these  
only to those of Dignity and Renown;  
Parts and Understanding of Birth and  
Fortune, as you are, which soars above  
the rest of your Fellow-Creatures, being  
unbiassed by the customary Opinion of the  
World, and so far from believing any to  
be undeserving, because Unfortunate, that  
their very Indigency intitles them to your  
Protection. Humbly so commending this  
as an Antidote against Whimsical, Me-  
lancholly Fancies, being Graced with  
your



( )  
your Acceptance, so relying on your Good-  
ness, in all humble Submission, I beg leave  
to Subscribe my self,

Your most  
Humble  
AND  
Devoted Servant

W. B.

*Choice*

## Choice and Uncommon Novels.

*The Amours of a Young Gentleman of Eighteen, with an Old Lady of Seventy Nine Years of Age; being an Entire History of all that pass between them, both in Visits and by Letters, from their first Acquaintance, to the Happy Celebration of their Nuptials; The Fact Faithfully related, and the Letters fairly Transcribed from the Original, by the Young Gentleman's own Hand, for Publick Utility; there being something purely New, and uncommon, throughout the whole Adventure.*

**I**T being my Good Fortune to be acquainted with a most Ingenious Young Lady, and to enjoy the Blessings of her Matchless Conversation, with great Freedom and Frequency; we soon became very Familiar, and contracted a firm Friendship; and being a Younger Brother of little Wit, and less Fortune; in my Bloom, she took Compassion on me, and told me that she was intimately acquainted with a Lady of a Solid Fortune; who' she fear'd the great Inequality of Years would discourage, if not quite damp me, that

she had good Interest in, and Influence over her; and that if I would attempt the Enterprize, she would give me her assisting Hand, and smoothe the way, and did not doubt but to overcome the most daring Difficulties, if I could dispence with empty Veins, shrivell'd Skin, and wither'd Face of Wainscot, with Limbs all pale and cold as Death, voice Hoarse and Raw, and almost lost, not one Foot only, but both ready to step into the Grave: and if this Character and Description true to a Title, would not be too great a Mortification to me for the Estate, she would engage to make it up Ten Thousand Pounds Sterling, if I found it not so much to a very penny; that the Money in Bonds, Mortgages and Cash, would be deliver'd into my Hands the next Morning after Consumation. I told the Lady, I took all this for Banter, and believed she did it to give her self and me some Diversion; for indeed we both laugh'd heartily at the Narration. No, Sir (says she) I vow to God I am in earnest, and have no other aim than to do you real Service, and fill your Pockets with a good round Sum of Money, with which you may purchase a good Estate, and be happy in the Enjoyment of a Young Lady, when you have got rid of the Old, who cannot stick by you long; and it may be I have also some self-interest and private Plot in the Conduct of this Affair, for I must be Frank with you: I love you beyond all Measure.



nd, and if I had a competent Estate to sup-  
port you and my self, according to our Birth  
and Manner of Living; I would not part with  
you out my own Arms, if you were willing to  
st. there; but my Annuity is too scanty to  
maintain us both, tho' it does me very Com-  
fortably, as you see.

I will feel the Old Lady's Pulse by my self,  
and prevail upon her to permit you to make  
her a Visit. I will introduce you, and give  
you the fairest Recommendation in the World;  
may be the Lady may appear more Beau-  
tiful: nay, Charming in your Eyes, dazzel'd  
with her glittering Ore, than in mine, who  
is clear; (not being Interested) may  
be most of our Sex, drop into a severe Cen-  
sure of each other. This I can assure you, she  
is not vowed a single Life, nor totally ab-  
solv'd Marriage; but in our frequent Confe-  
rences has sprinkled many Gay and Liqueurish  
Words, which makes me fancy she is not so  
old as she seems to be; or at least more Youth-  
ful, more Sprightly, and more Vigorous at  
bottom than at top. Besides, Sir (says she)  
you are a Man of promising Parts, have been  
well Educated, and have Travelled, and Con-  
vers'd (though Young) pretty much in the  
world, and have more Experience than I ex-  
pected to have found in you: If you are un-  
satisfied at home with an Old Wife, you may  
convert your self abroad with a Young Mistress,  
which you cannot fail of obtaining, when at

the head of such a plentiful Fortune; you may pick and chuse, for Gold is a mighty attractive of Ladies Love. Alas! Your Blood is hot, you are in the Spring of your Age, your Appetite is clear and strong, and needs no Incentives; for Nature prompts you, and sets you on rather too fast; you cannot startle at Old Age and Wrinkles: You have read *Ovid*, he tells you, *If Ugly, if Handsome, if Crooked, if Straight, if Old, if Young; still 'tis Woman-kind*. Your Inclination has never been pall'd, and while the warmth of your Temper, which is Sanguin, continues; you need no whet of Youth or Beauty, as old Surfeited Drunkards do of Old Hock, to give them a Stomach to a dish of Flesh.

I shall not pretend to describe her Temper though I have described her Person; I may be too severe and censorious in that also: for we Women look upon our selves with Admiration, and upon others with Contempt: we are really very partial, and fond of Flattery. Nay, even from our Dear selves, (the worst of all) and our Looking-Glasses help to betray our Judgments, but this will be certain she will be wondrous Complaisant to you and endeavour by all ways and means to gain and preserve your Love: She will always have on her best Temper, and put on her best Looks to entertain you when Married; and each glance or glimpse of kindness in you will melt her into a Present of uncommon

Value

Value: And surely if Nature be Averse and Refractory, interest the All-commanding Argument; the World's great Mistress! the Diana of the Universe, will prompt you to entertain some Thoughts of making a Vigorous attack, which will not cost you so much Blood, Time or Treasure, as the meanest Modern Fort.

Well Madam, (said I) I give you ten thousand Thanks, for your pretty obliging Discourse and Advice, which I am resolved to follow, and try what good Influences are now hovering over my Head. I will dispose my Affairs to be ready for a Visit, and Equip myself from top to Toe, wonderfuls Boish; to attend the success of your Negotiations, and at our next Interview, take proper Measures for the further Prosecution of this Affair.

Some few days after, I met the Lady by meer chance in the Street, coming from Church; she told me she had had mighty success in her Embassy, that the Old Lady was all in Transports, warm'd with the Thoughts of Love, and tickled with the Hopes of Pleasure; that she listen'd attentively to the Motion, and frankly consented to a Visit; but desired that she should come the first time a long with me, that she was fir'd with the Character she gave of my Person and Parts; that she perceived it by her Eyes, which sparkled a new, and by her Cheeks which recall'd and resum'd their



## Choice and Uncommon Novels.

Youthful Blushes: She found all over her mighty Change, new Life, new Heat, new Vigour! in every Limb and Member, her Blood run swift, her Pulse beat quick, and in one Word she left her all over in Raptures.

Before we parted, we fix'd the Day and Hour, when I was to begin my Approaches: the Place of Rendezvous was also agreed on, and accordingly three Days after we met, about four a Clock in the Afternoon, a very fit time to Visit Ladies and Embassadors, who reserve the Morning for Dressing and Business.

At our Entrance into the House, we were conducted into a Parlor, there to attend the Ladies coming, which was indeed immediately, Gentily rigg'd from Top to Toe she was a little Youthfuller than seem'd her due, everything rich and good about her; her Person not Charming (tho' her Gold was) but really not contemptible, the preceeding Character being no less than a bitter Satyr: I found by my Pallat I could relish the Meat with the Sauce; though the Food was but ordinary and none of the tenderst, yet by the help of a strong Ragou, (*viz* a good Estate) it would down. We were received with extraordinary Civility, and treated with distinguish'd Favours, all things great and handfom, a good Decorum observed in every thing: and after about an Hours Tittle Tattle, sprinkled with News, and now and then a pleasant Story we took leave with many acknowledgments

*Choice and Uncommon Novels.* 7

for the kind Entertainment. The Old Gentlewoman invited the Young Lady very heartily to repeat the Visit soon and often; and told that she had a peculiar and uncommon Friendship for her: which she owned, and paid her thanks for, and promised to comply with her Desires, and then gave me a fair opportunity to speak, which I did boldly; *And truly Madam (quoth I) I'll come along with her, I am sure I shall fare the better for her sake.* Indeed Sir (replied the Old Lady) you are a very Pleasant Gentleman, and excellent good Company, full of fine agreeable Storys, and Master of smooth and delicate Language, which you have absolutely at your Command, and which you deliver with mighty Advantage, without any Stiffness or Affectation, but all that proceeds from you, is purely Natural and Genuine: It must be an Obligation upon us both, if you will again give us your Conversation when the Lady now with us, comes hither again. So we took our Leave, and left the Old Lady extremely well pleased (as we guess'd) at what had past. This first Interview seem'd to carry a good Omen with it: The young Lady told me, She believed so Propitious beginning could not fail of an Happy ending; that no Astrologer in the World could have made choice of a more Fortunate time, all things concurring to our very Desires. We then began to debate upon the Measures we were to take for a further Pro-

gress in this Affair; and it was resolved that the young Lady should go alone, within two or three Days, and visit the old Lady, and see what Impressions she had received; and to examin her Opinion of my Person, Humour, and Demeanor, which was done; and at our next meeting a particular account given of it, and altogether Satisfactory. No remorse or difficulties in the way, but every thing upon the level; So we concluded it would be best for me to go alone, and boldly knock at the Door, and ask for the Lady, and so proceed to make my Address in form; which I did in a short time after, and was received with abundance of Respect, and possess'd with an opinion that I could hardly fail of success. I staid about two Hours, and entertained the old Lady with my Travels into Forreign Countries, and my Observations made there: She seem'd mightily pleased with them, and told me, She wished she had been with me; and that she was glad no Disasters had attended me, and said that Forreign Travel joined to a good Education, was a great Ornament; and that fine Parts embelish'd by witty Conversation rendered a Man absolute and compleat, and gave more true, and more durable Charms than Youth or Beauty; that the last were accidental and perishing, but the first essential and permanent, making the best distinction between Man and Man; and indeed were the only valuable Accomplishment in this World,

that



that she phancied her self Queen *Dido*, and me Prince *Aeneas*; relating my Adventures with more Grace than he did his, and with this difference, that mine was a chearful and pleasing Story, and his clouded and Melancholly, often drawing Tears from his Mistress; whereas mine on the contrary, gave her nothing but Mirth, without the least allay: She begg'd me to pardon the Pleasantness of her Temper, and not to charge her with Levity or Vanity, in the parallel, to suppose her self so young as *Dido*, or me so old as *Aeneas*; and that as she had taken an innocent freedom with me in her Conversation; so she hoped I would make no unkind or unnatural Reflections upon her Conduct. That as I appeared, so she believed I was a Gentleman, and as such she could fear no ill treatment from me: To all which I gave her as suitable Answers as I could, and owned the Honour she did me, by the great Character she gave of me, and by the Comparison she made; which was so much in my Favour, but superiour to my Merit; that I was happy in having given her any Diversion, which indeed was my chiefest aim, and in which indeed I should always take pleasure; that I found her Mistress of much Experience, and solid Judgment: Having made many nice and curious observations, particularly of the distinction of Man from Man; that I found her Poetical, Historical, and Philosophical; Accomplishments to be rarely

found in the Fair Sex, but Possessions much more valuable than those of Land; Money, Plate or Jewels, that I should be proud of and covet her Company beyond any in the World, that I fly from, and wholly abandon the Conversation of Men and Books, and come to her as a Treasury of Learning, and Knowledge; this Florish was taking, and drew Thanks in abundance from the Lady, to hear her self so praised and admired. So after a little more of the same sort of Chat, we parted, with a Declaration of mutual satisfaction, and what Felicities we were to participate in the Happy Friendship, we had so lately founded; which both promised to cultivate and improve, to the highest pitch of Perfection: And now I think it will be fit to describe her Person, the Humor 'tis impossible as yet, though that may be done after more Visits are made.

I returned full to the young Lady my Confident, and there unbolom'd my self; I informed her of all that had past, our very Dialogue was repeated, and my Conduct throughout the whole wonderfully applauded; and then it was I charged this young Gossip with an unfair account of the Person of my Mistress for she had mightily abused her Judgment and charg'd her with empty Veins, whereasthose were brim-full, (if not of Blood,) of Love. Her shrivell'd Skin, which was indeed a little Frank, but yet her Body in the main Plump which

which was better than dry Bones; and for her Skin it had been well painted by Nature, tho' now something sullied, and discolour'd, a little upon the Wainſcot; and for the reſt, it ſaw rather a Calumney than a Character: In ſhort, ſhe was a good agreeable Woman, chearful and brisk in Converſation, and not quite ſo old as reported; a Gentlewoman well Bred, of good Senſe, and of Experience in general, in the Affairs of the World, wondrous Amorous, and appeared very pleaſant, when ever that was the Text, of Perſon Proper, in Motion Graceful, Frank and Clear in Speech, very Complaiſant; and though her Face was furrow'd, her Cheeks were plump, her Teeth were gone, but her Breath was ſweet; her Breasts were large, and a little lank, her Shape preſerved, her Step was ſtately, her Habit handſom, and every thing ſuitable to her Years. Inſtead of repeating the Viſit, I ſent her (three or four Days after) the following Letter.

Madam;

**T**HE Favours I received at your Hands at our laſt Interview, Merit my beſt Acknowledgments, with which this Billet is charged; ſuch an Impreſſion they made upon me, that no Time, Age, Diſtance or Abſence, ſhall ever Efface. I take this Method to manifeſt my Gratitude, becauſe I can do it here with more freedom; this ſort of Converſation admits a larger Latitude: in  
your



your Presence I am awed by something peculiarly great in you; so that tho' I have no reason to suspect my own Courage, or in the least to doubt your Candor: yet I cannot be so Frank there, as I am now with a Pen in my hand in this Place. It would not only I fear be thought too forward, but even prove in vain to ask; nay, or to hope for so great an Honour, as an Answer from your fair Hand; if it were but to be informed of your Health, which I passionately desire to be satisfied of. However let my Fate in that be what it will, I will forthwith dispatch the Affairs I have upon the Anvil, and hast to you, to give you yet a far greater Evidence that I am beyond all Expression.

Madam,  
Your Most Obedient and  
Obliged Servant

W. S.

At my return to Town (which was in six Days after this Letter was sent) I went immediately to wait on the Lady, that was the happy Negotiatrix betwixt the old Gentlewoman and me, to know the success of my Epistle: She told me it was wonderful well received, and that it had been answer'd if I had staid but two Days longer in the Country; so impatient was the Mistress of my Wishes to see me, that she even intended to press my return in her Answer to mine; adding further, that all things had the fairest Face in the World, that good Fortune attended me in every

every thing and every where; and that I need not in the least fear a favourable and propitious end of my Amours: all which was very grateful News to me. So after a just return of Thanks for the good Offices and Services, perform'd by this She-manager, during my absence: I sent for a Bottle of Red, to drink her's and the old Ladies Healths, which we did over and over; and then (being inspired with Wine) we formed new Measures how to proceed in this weighty Affair; and accordingly it was resolved that I should go in the Afternoon to the Ladies House, and let her know that I arriv'd but that very Minute, and was uneasy till I came and threw my self at her Feet. Which was preceisely executed, and I received with no small Transports of Joy, and told that my Letter from the Country was very agreeable; and that if ever I happen'd to make any more Sallies of that kind, my Conversation by Letters would be own'd as a very great Favour. This you may be sure not a little tickled we: So down we sat, sometimes News was our Subject, but oftner Love; tho' I would not dwell upon that Theam too long, lest it should have been nauseous even to my self, for I must confess Interest (the falsest Guide in the World) rather than Love conducted my Desins: *Cupid* with all the Influence he is said to have over others, had very little Power over my Heart: I might very well with the Poet have own'd, that I could easily

easily have defied both the Boy and his Mother; and indeed have (if they had been in) driven them out by the Power of another; (a much more mighty Deity,) call'd *Bacchus*. But this damn'd deluding Devil, Interest, that had bewitch'd me absolutely, and in a manner constrained me to abandon the little Reason I was Master of; and to Sacrifice my present as well as future Peace of Mind, to an Idol (call'd Money) though admired by all the World; yet really, nay, generally in times past contemn'd by me; (not in the sense of the Antient Philosophers, who in that resembled the Malitious Fox that could not reach the Grapes, therefore pronounced them Sower) who not wanting a reasonable Competency, so not need to fear being pinch'd by Cruel Necessity: Ever was of Opinion, much Wealth brought much Care and much Trouble; therefore rather to be avoided then Courted, especially when a Woman of so great an Inequality of Years, (as Seventy Nine bear to Eighteen) was to be made a Wife of; else the Coin as Charming as it was, must not be fingered, no not so much as toucht by me: Alas! poor me.

I frequently reflected upon these Terms, and sometimes thought them very severe, especially when I put Tranquility of Mind in one Scale, and a lusty lump of refined Earth in to'ther: of which I once believed no quantity whatever, tho' never so great, could at-

tone



tone for the loss of the other. In reality there is no comparison between them. Thus was my Breast perplext; disquiet did often invade me, for tho' Young, Rash, nay, and foolish enough too: I was not without some Thoughtful, and Melancholly moments. Fears I had upon me, least the long race I had (in all humane probability) to run, should be impeded by Despair, (the near Neighbour to Death) and my Life, if not shorten'd, at least made tedious, dull and unhappy, (which are incommodities not to be born with, if the Roman greatness of mind be at all esteem'd by us.)

Thus torn between two Extremes, to wit, Covetousness to obtain a great Fortune, and Fear to live wretchedly with an Old Wife: I knew not what Course to take, (for in the whole World I had not one faithful Friend to advise with in this nice Matter) one prompted me to advance; to'ther counsell'd, or at least would have frighten'd me into a Retreat. Some steps I had already made; therefore it would have been Dishonourable to have quitted the Ground I had gain'd; to look back, was to marr the whole Matter: But I resolute, as I always was, yet knew not how to Steer the Ship of my Mind.

The Lady (in whose Presence I happen'd then to be whilst these very Thoughts were fluctuating about my Breast) was curious to know what made me seem so Pensive, and so mightily to have changed Humour, even in

so short a space of time ; that I let her have all the Chit Chat, and just answered Yes, and No : Whereas at my first, second, nay, and beginning of this third visit ; I was very full of pretty Prattle, wonderfully Entertaining, and so Attractive, that her Ears were hardly her own.

To her Interrogatories, I replied very Partly, and with much Artifice, denying absolutely any Thoughtfulness or suddain Change, or any the least Variation of Humour ; alleging that it was Respect to her, made me so silent, together with a mighty Pleasure I took in her Discourse ; assuring her that in my turn I would talk, and endeavour her Diversion, which was what I chiefly (as I said) aimed at.

So on we went, and I continued my Visit, till we had spun out two full Hours, when I thought it was time to take leave, and hasten to my Bottle, and beloved Companions, who then were staying for me at the *Devil-Tavern* ; any Devil I thought then, is better than the Devil of an Old Wife.) So after Salute, gentle Embrace, and abundance of Compliments : I lower'd my top Sail and Sail'd away, and glad was I, I was got away, and going as then seem'd to better, and more agreeable Company : However at parting, I dropt Words that bore hopes of another Visit, and that pretty suddenly, which drew Smiles and pleasant Looks from my Mistress pretty Phiz, which

made

made her Dimples (or rather Wrinkles) appear mighty large and plain; but out of their sight, they soon vanish'd out of my Mind, especially by the aid and assistance of the Noble and Elevated juice of the Grape, which soon caused me to change Sentiments, and resume my former Gay temper. I soon forgot all that had past between my loving Mistress and me; the Healths went round, (nay and the Room too in a little time) and the Glasses danc'd merrily about, and the Bottles rattled upon the Table; we were mighty Merry, and had a little snack of mangeables to fill up, and make the Nectar glide down the glibber, and so we past the whole Evening, nay, and Night too; which would have been pleasant, had it been as long again, for none of us called for Day, which by its Light and Business, is often a very sore Enemy to good Fellows. At two we quitted our Posts, paid Cost and Damages, and so retired.

After six Hours Sleep, and half an Hours slight Slumber, I began to recapitulate, and to recal to my Mind, the Affairs of the past twenty four Hours, I began with the business of the Afternoon, not Matrimouy, but something very near it, (and which I am sure is better than any part of it,) viz. matter of Money. I reflected very seriously upon all that had passed between my great Grandmother (for she was Old enough to be so) and me; as also upon the dampness and dulness of Humour,



Humour, as well as heavy Thoughts which attacked me, during my being in her Company. Whether the Wine having heated my Blood, had banished my Fears, Doubts, and Scruples, or whether being absent had struck out the dismal Idea of her, I can hardly give any account, but this I remember, that on my Pillow, I had none of those dreadful Thoughts in my Nodde of Sorrow, Grief, or Despair of restless Nights, and doleful Days; if matters should end in a close Conjunction of our two precious Bodies: (for I much question'd whether there be would any union of our Souls, nay, or Hearts either.) No, nought but pleasing Phancies entertained my waking Minutes, as indeed Amorous Dreams had my sleeping Hours. The Cordial I took the Night before was good, and the Dose pretty large, which I believe made my Spirits brisk and piert; nay, I could almost have wish'd the Old Lady in my Arms; so much had *Cupid* gain'd upon me by the power of good Wine, whose Charms are far more pleasing then those of Love.

Up I got, and flew to my Esuritore, when pondering upon Matters, and having small Inclination to any more Visits as yet; I resolv'd to divert my self in the Country, hoping to beat all Thoughts of this old Musty Creature out of my Head; however not quite to abandon the Enterprize, I drew up the following Epistle and sent it to her.

Madam,

Madam,

**B**usiness of mighty Importance obliging me to leave the Town for a few Days, and not permitting me time to take my Leave of you (as I ought,) I have sent this swift Messenger to ask you ten thousand Pardons. The Minute of my Return I shall attend your Commands, and be proud if you have any for me; being at Heart

Madam,

Your Most Humble Servant,

W. S.

Away I went to Epsom forthwith, where I met some old Acquaintance, with whom I past away my Hours very agreeably, hardly once thinking (much less Dreaming) of my Superannuated Mistress. Sometimes a faint Idea of her shrivelled Corps would force it self into my Mind, and give me a little damp, and put me upon a short pause, but then I wash'd it away in sparkling Champaign; delightful Stories, and waggish Tales, soft Songs, melodious Musick, country Dances, and other Diversions; soon kick'd (or at least shook,) out all Pensiveness on her account. But then that All-commanding God of this World Mammon, insinuating to my Thoughts, what a large share of Pleasure and Happiness attended Riches; and how all my ways would then be strewed with Joys and Gay Delights: I listened to these sly and fond Incitements, and began

gan seriously to consider, that it would be my true Interest to keep this Affair warm, and not by my indifference or absence, to make way for some more diligent Rival, which put me upon the Resolution of sending her another Billet, which was in the following Words:

Madam,

**I** Shall be in Town in less than Forty Eight Hours; when my promise in my last Letter, shall be punctually perform'd. My Modesty hitherto has constrained me to conceal my Passion, but I find it in vain to pretend to do it any longer: It is impetuous, and not to be resisted, much less subdued: I thought business and distance would have extinguish'd it. But no, nothing can expel it, it is so deeply rooted in my Soul; I scarce dare tell I love you, and yet I must: Nor can you suspect my Aim to be on your Gold only, because you know I am no Mercenary Man. I am satisfied I can be Happy with you, and not without you: You may be easy with me, for you shall find such Complaisance in me, that the whole World shall be convinced of the false Notions generally imbib'd, That Youth and Age cannot agree. I'll make your Days delightful, and your Nights pleasant; not one disagreeable Thought shall live in your Brest, all shall be Love, all shall be Joy. But Oh! whither am I going? how am I transported! the Subject inspires me! I can hardly give over, but least I should be thought tedious or troublesome:



blesome: I must conclude, and only tell you that I  
am in earnest,

Your Faithful Lover,  
and Ardent Admirer,  
W. S.

The two Days being expired, I mounted  
my Stately Steed, and up I came, full Gallop  
all the way, impatient to be at the good Old  
Woman, I mean at her Coffers; for there in  
Sober, Sadness, lay my load of Love; that  
was the attractive that drew my Heart: My  
Pockets were empty, her's full, my Veins  
were full, and hers empty. It would be but  
Barter or Swop, and I reckoned I should have  
the best Bargain: So I resolved to proceed,  
and push on my Amours, with all imaginable  
Vigour and Application.

Accordingly at my Arrival, I forthwith  
Visited my Agent, whom in my absence I had  
left to negotiate my Matters. After Salute  
and reciprocal Compliments, (Things of course)  
I fell to the Business, and asked the young  
Gossip how Things went? Oh, rarely well,  
(replies she) the old Lady was mightily plea-  
sed with your Letters, especially your last,  
because in that you laid open your very Heart  
to her; and she was always in pain before the  
Receipt of that, lest you should have only a  
design upon her Cash, without the least value  
or esteem for her; but now that you have de-  
clar'd your Passion, and represented it in a  
manner,

manner, so Elevated and Sublime, she really  
fancies you are Sincere; for she does not be-  
lieve her self so Old as she is: being I assure  
you not without some light Expressions, and  
wanton Words; (which she would most cer-  
tainly censure in a young Lass) In good Faith  
the old Girl is a little waggish now and then,  
especially when she thinks or talks of you:  
you will have a fond peice of her, she will  
stick to you like Bird-lime, and be as loving  
as the Ivy to the Oak; and you like a Wise  
Man, must wink at all her Follies and Faults,  
her Money will make ample amends for all;  
that, that alone can atone for all the Defects  
in her, (or any Body else) of Youth, Beau-  
ty or Wit. And as *Butler* makes his *Sir Hu-*  
*diibras* speak to his Mistress, 'Tis not her bright  
piercing Eyes, but the Oriental Pearl about her  
Neck; 'tis not her Golden Locks, but her Yellow  
Coin in Chests; not her Rosy Cheeks, nor Love-  
ly Lipps, that are so attractive of his Heart, but  
the Noble and truly Valuable Pictures of Silver in  
her Cabinet. I fancy you are a kin to that old  
Cavaleer; these Things will go down with  
you, as well as they did with him. In a Word,  
you have her Heart, though as yet she has  
none of Yours; she can't (that is she wont)  
keep any thing from you; she will not con-  
ceal any Bills or Bonds, Bundles or Baggs,  
Rings, Plate, Jewels, or ought else from you,  
for you will be absolute Master (not in Law  
only, but) by Possession; she will throw them  
all

all into your Lap, the second Day of your  
 Marriage, if you happen to please her well  
 the first Night, as in all probability, you may,  
 for you are, as likely and promising, as ever I  
 saw Man; Nature having been very liberal to  
 you thereabouts, as I have been told, there-  
 fore for your Life be Vigorous; the first at-  
 tack will be the worst, it can't daunt, but it  
 may damp your Courage; there can no great  
 difficulty arise to be encountered by you, for  
 there is a breach in her Fort already, (she be-  
 ing no Maid) so the easier taken; nay, it  
 will surrender at Discretion; therefore I say,  
*Fear not; let not your noble Courage be cast down;*  
 all that you have to oppose you, that can be  
 formidable, is Borrow'd Hair, Artificial Teeth,  
 Perfum'd Plums in Mouth, Lank Flesh, Old  
 Aches, Pungent Pains, and some few unfavo-  
 ry Scents, which will be sufficiently Sweetned  
 the next Morning, by the rich Present she  
 will make you of above Ten Thousand Pound  
 Sterling (besides the Appendix already men-  
 tion'd) for your Breakfast; and if you don't  
 think your self nobly Rewarded, I know not  
 what to say to you. I must tell you Sir, those  
 will be large acknowledgments for secret Ser-  
 vice; there are a great many Gentlemen about  
 the Town, would be glad to take your Place,  
 and make me a Present of Five Hundred  
 Guineas, tho' I neither expect, nor will ac-  
 cept of a Shilling from you on that Score; all  
 that I desire, or shall pretend to deserve, will  
 be



be the continuation of your Favor & Friendship.

To all which acceptable Discourse, I made this Return:

*Madam*, I have now gain'd an absolute Mastery, and entire Conquest over my nice and squemish Humor; I have, I say, subdued my foolish and idle Fancy; I can well digest such Food as that, especially with the help of Champignons, ( Mushrooms I mean ) and such good Pickles, as you just now talk't off: Pox on it, it will be but doing Penance for a few Hours, to obtain a Kingdom of Pleasure and Happiness, as wide as the World, and as lasting as my Life; such a plentiful Fortune will give me Comfort and Liberty, and Faith I'll take it; I'll make the old Lady's Money fly about, she shall pay the Piper, I fackin' she shall; I'll soon have my Hand in, and at the bottom of her Baggs, though they were as long as my Father's draw-Well is deep, and that is above Four Score Yards. I'll Treat you Nobly, my dearest Jewel at the Spring Gardens, in the Parks, and at the Play-House the Taverns shall be our Office, and if the old Pastimes and Pleasures of this World seem dull and flat, we will find out new Ones more pleasing and more gay: you shall share largely of my good Fortune, as indeed you will merit, because you will be the happy Instrument, and Author of it. My Obligations to you will be vast, but my Gratitude to you shall be suitable to your Services, nay, and to you

your Services, nay, and to your very Desires, always very modest and reasonable.

Well Sir, (adds the young Lady) there is nothing now remaining on your part to be done, but advance briskly, and to push boldly, the Town's your own, and all the Plunder, it only waits (like *Buda*) for your approach to yeild; the numerous Armies of your Rivals having long since quitted the Field, to make way for your Great and Glorious Success, which you can no more fail of, then I can cease to Love you: Besides, I have consulted the two greatest Doctors in Astrology, *Gad*——y and *Par*——ge, upon the matter, and they both agreed in their Opinions, their Schemes being Radical, (and your Nativity also promising good Fortune from Women of elder Years) that you would be lucky in all your attempts of that kind: this is the Time, the critical Minute, away then, haste to the good old Lady, I know she will receive you with open Arms; nay, will hardly forbear Kissing you; for *Mars* and *Venus* are now near Conjunction, which is an excellent Position, very propitious to Lovers; you need fear no Vulcans, there are none in that Neighbourhood, no Nets to be spread to catch you, but what the old Woman carries about her: Be on, begon I say, delay not a Minute, lose not a Moment; I am satisfied all will go according to your very Hearts desire.

I obey Madam, (replied I) so a Coach was  
C called

called to grace the Cause, and Leave taken; away I rattled to the old Countesses, who knowing my Knock, flew to the great Gate herself, and heartily welcom'd me to Town; telling me, 'twas not a Month, a Year, but an Age since I left her, that she had not pass'd one easie Moment since we parted; that she received some small Consolation in my Billets, but should have done much more in my Conversation: that she was resolv'd I should never be so long absent, nor far distant again; let the Affair be of never such Importance to me; that she did once suspect, but now was well satisfied of the Sincerity of my Passion; and that she could not fear the Constancy of it, seeing she had Ligaments strong enough to bind, if not Charms engaging enough to enslave; dear it, that two Hearts thus United, and made as it were in one Mold, could not fail of being exceeding Happy; that she flatter'd herself, (and hoped she should not be deceiv'd or disappointed) that I would be wonderful Complaisant to her, and Civil at least, if not very Indulgent; that all my faithful Services should be Nobly gratified, according to her Generosity, and my Desert: assur'd me that she would never be Jealous, nor curious to pry into, and find out my Intrigues with young Ladies, if ever I should have any; of which she had not the least Apprehension. And to conclude, that her Person and whole Fortune were absolutely at my Service.



and disposal; and that she hoped I would  
not unkindly charge her openness with Levi-  
ty, or suspect her guilty of any loose Thoughts,  
or fond Designs; declaring and Protesting,  
that nothing but Love was in her view, that  
her Passion was pure and untainted, and that  
my Person and Conversation were the only  
in she had; that in Possessing one, and En-  
joying the other, she should be Lady of more  
Wealth, than both the *Indies* contain; that  
her chief Pleasure would consist in admiring  
for ever, my Noble Physiognomy, (which in  
her opinion carried in it something extraor-  
dinary, and presaged temporal Greatness and  
Honour,) and in the Diversion she should re-  
ceive in my Conversation, which had (as she  
said) Charms in it beyond all expression; that  
like an Eternal Spring, I never came into her  
Company but I had something new; and that  
the oftner she saw my Person, or heard my  
Voice, the more she lov'd and admir'd me;  
which wanted nothing to attain the utmost  
Pitch of Perfection, but a speedy consumation  
of Marriage which lay at my Door, and which  
she left wholly to my Consideration; and so  
with a Bumper of Champaign Wine, she con-  
firm'd all that she had said, (at the same time  
drinking my Health and Felicity) to me.  
To all which I rejoyned, that the Honours  
and Favours she had done me, were uncommon  
and distinguish'd; That from the Minute of  
our first Acquaintance, to this very Moment,  
I had

I had met with Civility, even to excess: That she was Mistress of all the Vertues requisite or necessary, to gain the Heart of the greatest Man upon Earth: That mine was intirely vanquish'd, and would have been, had it been an Army of Ten Thousand Hearts, to have surrounded and Guarded it: That I firmly resolv'd, and indeed intended to have made some resistance, but all in vain, it was very slight and faint, hardly deserving the name of Opposition; that the Fates would have so, and therefore I readily resign'd my self to her appointment; for it was bootless to contend, when Destiny had so fairly declared her Favour; that her many Merits would more than compensate for the defect of Youth, which for the most part is attended by Folly, Vanity, and Levity; whereas her advanced Age had produced much Wisdom and Prudence obtain'd; nay, riveted by long experience, (in it self unerring) which would bring greater Comforts, and bring more solid Joy than a painted Babby, patcht Phis, or lascivious Glances, lewd Gestures, and indecent Actions, which in the end brought Penury, Sorrow; nay, and sometimes doleful Distempers, and mature Death.

The old Lady was not a little gratified with my Openness and Candor, vowing that she hated all manner of Flattery and Dissimulation; of which she observed the least in me that she ever did in any Man: adding, that

y plainness and Integrity, should be highly valued by her: Urging, *That clear and round dealing, was the Honour of Man's Nature; nay, of a Woman's too! that base Actions, not on-ly more their own Guilt, but also carried their own punishment, even in this World, besides what lay in serve for the to'ther.*

Thus had we a mixture of Divinity, as well Mortality: And in short, abundance of very serious and sober Chat, far excelling the tittle tattle, or prittle prattle of young slippery Gossips, whose Company is no where valuable, but upon the Downy Pillow, the Place expressly made for Love.

To bind reciprocally all that had past between us, she took a large Rummer of generous Wine, and having fill'd it up to the very brim, drank an Health to my future fortune, and to a speedy and happy Consecration; at which she took a hearty pull, drinking at least a third part of the way towards the bottom; and Faith I e'en made an end of the rest, heartily pledging so good a health, beginning her's with the same address.

Her Heart being wonderfully Elevated by that noble Juice, and inflamed by that grateful Passion, which as *Ovid* says *Is adding fuel to Fire*: She express'd a mighty satisfaction at all that had been said and done, closing our long Conference, and told me very frankly, that she would take it into her most

serious



serious Consideration, and advise with her on my Pillow, as she hoped I would also do, for a matter of that high Nature, and vast Importance, which required deep and mature Deliberation, being by no means to be rashly enterpriz'd, for fear of Repentance, which ever brought bitterness in abundance with it.

I praised her weary Caution, and prudent Consideration beyond Measure, confirming her Opinion, commending highly her Conduct, and consenting readily to the Exaction thereof according to her Scheme and Method. And so after an hearty Hug, and tender Embrace, dwelling upon her soft Lips for a few Moments, (which I said I could have lived upon for ever, tho' I should have found them but thin Diet, far worse than Water-Gruel) we parted for that time to our mutual satisfaction. She attended me to the very Door, and gave an Amorous glance just at my going off.

According to her pious Project, I resolv'd to ruminate upon this Affair on my Pillow to morrow Morning in my Bed; but this tedious Visit, which had been tiresome, and very fatiguing to me, put me upon other Thoughts of being about for my Bottle Companions, whom I found at their old Post; I went, was very mum in the Matters that had pass'd between the old Lady and my self, I clapt a Pad-lock upon my Mouth, as bro-

is a bumper of Wine, and sweetly suck'd in the  
reviving Gulp, which I found far more a-  
greeable than the Cordial of Love; a small  
draught of which (at least with her) I was in  
all likelihood to take; unless there be no dif-  
ference in Women.

However, when the Wine had warm'd my  
interiours; I found my Tongue very willing  
to move, accordingly I told my Friends pre-  
sent, that an acquaintance of mine, of about  
Eighteen years of Age, was engaging with an  
old Gentlewoman of Seventy Nine; that she  
had a swinging Cod of the Ready Rhino,  
that she was very agreeable in Conversation,  
and really in her Person not at all to be di-  
spised; asking their Sentiments upon the mat-  
ter. *Faith* (replies one of them) 'tis your self  
Will, you Rogue: *You are a cunning Dog*, (says  
another) *a sly Toad*, (adds a third.) *Well*  
(say they all) *how much Coriander has she?* I  
answered about Twelve Thousand Pounds  
Sterling in Money, Jewels, Furniture, &c.  
assuring them that it was not I, but a Fami-  
lar Acquaintance of mine, that was concern'd  
in this Affair: But it was not a little plea-  
sing, nay, diverting to me, to hear their va-  
rious, and confus'd Opinions hereon; the deep  
Descants, and witty Reflections they made on  
this Occasion. Let it suffice, that I oblige the  
Reader with some of the most Material and  
keenest of them.

*What!* (says one) *will you, you young Rascal*  
*throm*

brov away you self upon an old dul, drowsy, bald  
 Moth? A second, have you no more Sense, then  
 to suffer your Vertue to be drawn out of you by an  
 old Witch, Born in the Days of Queen Bess?  
 Another, Do you value the Peace of your Mind,  
 the Tranquility of your Thoughts at so low a rate,  
 as to expose your self to the many Evils attendant on  
 so unequal a Match?

Then another Party begun, (for you must  
 know that we had two Factions among us)  
 and said, Verily, I think Will is in the right;  
 let her be as ugly as the the Devil, or his Damm,  
 as old as Mother Shipton; nay, and as wrinkle-  
 led too: what a duce need he care, has not he upon  
 Marriage with her, a Fortune that has in its  
 Power, Pleasures unspeakable; Witty Companions,  
 Chearful Bottles, Young Mistresses, Rural Sports,  
 a Coach, a Brace of Geldings, and Hunters be-  
 sides, Equipage Noble, Town Divertisement, Plays,  
 Parks, Wells, and what not? Is it not pitty,  
 Gentlemen, to lose all these, for fear of having a  
 few ill Moments at home? Whither he need resort  
 but seldom; once a Month is often enough, just  
 to see that all things are in order, and to know  
 whether the Devil has not carried the Witch off,  
 according to compact, her time being near expired;  
 or to fetch some Coin to carry abroad, to continue  
 the Pleasures there: Nor is there any absolute ne-  
 cessity for the young Man ever (but once only)  
 to go between the Sheets with the old Trot; it is  
 sufficient, and as much as she can deserve for all  
 her Money and Fondness, if he be Civil and Com-  
 plaisant



laisant to her; which is a thing may be done without much reluctancy, that is not very hard against Nature, it will cost but little, a few good Words, some Smiles, and fair Actions to boot.

Another started up, and went on upon the same Topick, and urged, That Will's Conduct was to be praised; for he was a younger Brother, as well as a young Fellow, and had no Fortune, at least not any that deserved that Name; that did well to strike, for old Women often doted on young Men; and what if she were stricken in years, the Older she was the sooner she would Dye, and then he would be decently rid of her: Besides, the Youth was impatient, there were genteel ways enough to remove her out of sight at least, not quite out of the way, that he needed no a'twice the Matter: For tho' he was but a young Man, yet he was an old Townsman, and not only knew the Town and Country too very well; but had practis'd as many Roguish Tricks, as any Beau of them all: Had been Clapt several times, and Cured by Famous Doctor Conq—st as often, and been often Drunk, and often Sober, had Gam'd, and done all the other things that accomplish young Gentlemen, that take up their abode in this large Town, call'd London, where many a brave Man soon undone; though after all, it is one of the best Accademies in the World to train up Youth in. And to the same purpose proceeded others, thus was poor I see-saw'd most unmercifully, and calling a new Cause, we quitted that, and

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and fell on another Subject, and then drank about briskly : By this time we were well warmed, then I drew off and quitted the Field, remembering that I had a very knotty piece of work to puzzle my Pate about, that therefore I would go sober to Bed; that my Head being free from Fumes, I might in the Morning think with more freedom, and form some good Resolutions, in an Affair so weighty as that, which might last all my Life-long. I did accordingly, and took my Leave, and whipt down my Club, and mov'd off, and so quietly went to my Repose; and at my waking, fell upon the Text I had fresh before me.

But as young as I was, I had read *Osbourne's* Advice to his Son, and particularly that Chapter about Marriage; and though he lashed the poor Ladies unreasonably, yet I found he gave some quarter to those that were well endow'd; which in plain *English*, was to those that were very Rich, which he says is very Comfortable in this World. He was a merry Satyrist, and treated the fair Sex Unmanly; nay, Barbarously, more to shew his Wit than good Nature, or good Breeding: For after he has broke their Heads, he gives them a Plaister; in some places calling them *Divine Beautys* and *Cælestial Shapes*, advising them to contemn Marriage, and to be admired for their Beauty in their Youth, and for their Vertue in their old Age.

Having done with him, I recollected a Passage in *Hudibras*, that gave me some Consolation; for that noised in my Ears last Night, pro and con; had almost Stun'd if not Surprised me: But the Celebrated Poet's Words are these:

*Marriage at best is but a Vow,  
Which all Men break, or bow.*

By that I found that I might a little indulge myself, to which I was well inclined; being in my Principles as well as Practices, a *Latitudinarian*, and a *Deist*, tho' no *Atheist* I promise you.

Upon the whole, I resolv'd to wait upon the Lady of my Affections in the Afternoon; for I had sufficiently digested the whole Affair. Accordingly I went, and prest my Amour most Pathetically, and made such a very deep hole in her Heart; that after she had asked me, If I had consider'd well upon the Affair on the Pillow? I assured her, that I had well weighed it, and was very easy in every part and point thereof: We soon fixt the Day to Celebrate our Nuptials, which was agreed to be the following *Thursday*; by which time the Taylor could be able to new vamp up our Clothes; for we resolv'd not to make any new Ones, till after Consummation; for we knew that would make a great noise in the Town, and cause us to be put in the *Flying Post*, *Post Boy*, or *Post Man*: To prevent which, and other inconveniences that attend publick Shews and



and Ostentation; we concluded on a private Wedding, which we accordingly executed, at the very time appointed, at *St. Pancras* (the Mother of *St. Pauls*) and afterwards had a good Dinner, then went to the *Play house*, from thence to a good Supper, and so to Bed together, and had as much Pleasure as ever I desire in one Night so long as I live; and next Morning receiv'd a Present of Ten Thousand Pounds for my good Services.

*A Noble Man Cuckolded by his Servant.*

SINCE it's Customary among Persons of great Rank, to lie in a Chamber a part from their Ladies; there was a certain One (which shall be now nameless) who notwithstanding his Lady was both Beautiful and Brisk as most were; yet for all that to keep up the custom of Gayety, and the humour of the Town and Country, and when he had a desire at any time to enjoy the sweet Embraces of his lovely Consort; rising from his own Bed, he would steal out in the Dark in his Shirt, making no noise, and knocking at the Ladies Door softly; which she hearing and knowing his knock, did rise and gave him admittance: Now besides the Mode he was wont to say, that it look'd like, and had as much Pleasure in it as Whoring, and so being not only *Ala Mode de Paris*, but also *de Anglitére* used it: Having only what Nights, and as often as he pleas-

sed performed the necessary and obliging Duty of the Marriage-bed: He returned to his own Chamber to spend the residue of the Night, in an undisturbed Repose; one of the Lord's *Valet de Chambers* (whether Naturalized or no, I leave you to guess) taking notice of the Humour, concluded since the Lady was so Charming, and her Lord had given her Provocation by keeping of Mistresses, concluded that he might take an opportunity, and have admittance into his Ladies Chamber, and participate of the same Pleasures: By the same means his Masters humour and usage had inculcated into his Thoughts. Upon a serious Consultation with himself, he concluded that Night best for the accomplishing his Design, in which his Master had visited his Lady: So about an Hour or two after, he resolved to put his Lustful project in practise, which he doing so well by imitation, that he got entrance: So that I'll leave it to you both to think, and judge how he spent his time, without putting your Modesty to the extravagancy of Blushes; all I shall say, that upon report he performed his Part so vigorously, and so often, that when he departed, he left the innocent Lady all in Wonder and Amazement; but that which increased her admiration, was not only his profound silence, tho' she urged him to speak: but the coming of her Lord (as she thought and supposed) twice. So timely slipping away, her dear Lord, whilst she was ruminating alone,

knock'd

knock'd again Stimulated in all probability more then ordinary, by some provocations he had taken on the Day, whisperingly demands an entrance again: So the Lady knowing his Voice, rose and let him in. But as he was about to prosecute his accustomed Enjoyments, the moderate and modest Lady begged of him to forbear; assuring him that she was (as all good, and vertuous Women should be) satisfied with what she had got: Further telling him innocently and ignorantly, that he was much to blame for being so inordinate in his Desires: For what (said the poor Heart) could not you my Lord (since you find so great an alteration) be contented with twice coming in one Night; and the second time to have even undone your self, and almost me also; but that you must like a good natur'd and kind Husband come a third time also, and expose your Body to the injury of the Cold in so short a time, you know my Lord that the Fair is to hold all the Year, excepting the Gender Month, which in the superstitious Times was then set apart, and continued since as a Relique; which in time, we hope will be throw'd off: And as for the Dog-days, which others & you must plead Antiquity to be excus'd from doing Duty in: It has been, and will be made appear, that though there be Dog-days which have and now may, it's granted some pretence Yet there never was, or will be Dog-nights so that is but a vulgar Mistake or Error, and



not to be Pleaded or Embraced. To all which Jocular Discourse, the Lord replied that granting the Fair lasted all the Year, yet this was but the second time of visiting her that Night; so that she must be in a pleasant Dream, and under a Mistake, so the good and innocent Lady, like the rest of her Sex, in time of Extremity never wanting an excuse, answered, I am now fully perswaded, that since I was but in a sweet Slumber, and as I judge must be mistaken, it being only a fond Dream, which is always Fabulous. But the Lord beginning to pause upon it, and from what he had first heard and gathered from the Circumstances of Discourse; he was perswaded, and verily believed that it was more then a Dream, and that he had been abused by one in the House. So keeping all close, to avoid the ill Consequences which such a Discovery might produce, having laid a while, he left his Lady, and going into his own Chamber, could not rest there long, so putting on his Breeches and a Gown, went into all his Male-Servant's Chambers that were about him, making as he went a strickt inquiry with his Nose in every Bed; for it seems the Lady was (as the Customs was) well Perfumed or Scented, at last he bethinks himself of one, which he had more than ordinary grounds of Suspicion, because besides his Complexion, which never fails of ardent Inclination to the Female-Sex, he was both an Handsome, and very Subtil Fellow, but he could not then tell

his Chamber or Bed, but by chance groping up and down in the Dark, he found him by the Smell, and thence judged that that must be the Villain that had done him that Dishonour; wherefore that he might be sure to know him on the Morrow, he took out of his Pocket a pair of Scissers and snipped off one of his Whiskers: For then it was the Fashion with all (as now with some Forreigners) to wear them: The Fellow being awake, knew very well his Lord had a design upon him as to know him the next Day; to prevent which, as soon as his Master was gone, he instantly starts up, and going into all his Fellow-Servants Chambers when asleep, cuts off from all the Men that Whisker which was on the same side of the Mouth that his was cut off, and so returns to his own Bed: The Men-Servants rising early in the Morning, and seeing each others right Whisker gone, stood Staring upon one another, like so many Distracted *Bethlemises*, not knowing what to say, nor whom to accuse: In short, one which was known sufficiently to be an Arch Wag was suspected, and thereupon some of the more passionate fell foul upon, and abused him most pitifully, whilst others namely the Female-Servants for his good turns, took his part, by which means all were engaged the weakest like to come to the Walls; at which noise the House being Alarmed, the Lord and Lady sending, yea, coming to see and know the

the matter; were so Surprized, *First* with the Strangeness of such a Comical sight; and *Secondly* with the contrary Passions in one Company, to proceed from the same Cause, as to see the Men Crying and the Women a Laughing, without respect to either Lord or Lady: But their Lord commands immediately a Cessation of Arms in that Domestick, yet Bloody Civil War, to end the Controversie, he Summons all to appear before him: And having cleansed themselves from the Blood, each Face by Fighting had contracted, they all appeared in the great Hall; upon which both the Lord and Lady were possess'd with the same different Passions as their Servants were; for the Lord was in a Fury to see, and find out the Traytor that had abused him, as the Men-Servants were: The Lady like to her Maids, and unlucky Boy fell into the greatest Laughter imaginable, to see them so disguised. The first made a bitter Complaint of the others, of the injury they had sustained in the abuse of their Beards: The the Defendants alledging that they were Innocent and Guiltless of the Fact, and for their good Will in coming to help and assist, or rescue (as they thought) the Harmless and Innocent Boy, they were without regard to their Sex, assaulted and abused by them: So in short, (said the Lord) it was I that cut off one Whisker which I have here, therefore whosoever is the owner thereof, I will have his Head off too, for



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for an irreparable injury he hath done me. Look here (said the Lord) whose remaining Whisker marcheth this Colour, on him I will be revenged. So Carrets falling down upon his Knees, begged Pardon, confessing silently to his Lord the whole Truth; and for his Wittry endeavour of Concealment, he gave him his Life, with the loss only of his Ears and Belstrings or Danglers: And after his being Cured, his Lord delivered him to his Fellow abused Servants, which getting a Blanket, tossed him so long in revenge that they had like to have tossed his Bones out of his Skin, as well as him out of his Lordships Service, the Maids at his Departure setting the Dogs at him: So afterward it was observed by the remaining Servants, that that Lord and Lady (excepting in Child-Bed) made never two Beds.

### *The Deceiver Deceived.*

**A** Comely Young Lady, in or about London, which wanting Necessaries both for her Body and House; held a long Consultation with her self, how she might effect her Desires, by a well contrived Credit: Having laid many Plots, but finding none of them firm enough to take; so as to build the structure of her Designed advantaged, till she chanced to hit upon this Stratagem. She having a Daughter which like to her self, was

more Handsome then Honest; and much more Witty than Wise: In short, as the Mode is now, both Mother and Daughter was as right as my Leg, and as good as ever pifs'd; they consulting together, concluded thus on their Project, that they must in the first place change (as the Custom is for such) their Lodging: but before they did it, the Dutiful Daughter was sent to one of the Devil's Factors, which some call a Tally-man, with whom she was acquainted, and took up all the Materials belonging to Man's Apparel, which she said was for her Husband, which being lately a long Voyage at Sea; was come home up the River, to receive the Pay due to him for serving his Majesty so many Years; and telling the Story so plausibly, by expressing seemingly so much Joy for his Health and safe Arrival, and what a great Sum of Money he had to take: So that the Tally-man did not only trust her for a Suit of Man's Apparel, but also furnished her self with the most of the necessary Things she wanted: Being thus laded with Credit, home she went; But in a very little time removing their Goods, for to accomplish their future Projects, into a Place which they thought more convenient. The Mother played the Changeling with her self, by throwing off her Female Weeds, and Cloathing her self in every respect like a Man: The Daughter like a Baggage, pretending to those that knew her that

her

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her Mother was lately Dead in the Country; so she now being without Friends and left to to the wide World, knew not what course to steer for want of some advise: So working upon the Affections of diverse of the Neighbourhood, partly by her good Face and notable smooth Tongue, telling them that there was a young man which belonged to the Sea that Lodged in the House, did Court her; but she being Young was fearful of ingaging without the advice and assistance of some Friends, in such a weighty Matter: Whereupon some of the Neighbours enquires into the Estate and Resolution of the Gentleman-Lodger, and finding them agreeable, asked him if he had a mind to and would Marry the young Woman: Which he then protested he Loved before, and beyond any in the World, and would if she, and they pleased be Married to her the next Week; which being agreed upon, they were Married according to form, and spent that Day in great Jollity; and Night approaching, they went to Bed together: But as they well knew themselves without any hopes of reaping the sweet Enjoyment of a Marriage-Bed; but by the strength of Imagination or a Dream: So having spent that Week in Rejoycing they thought it time to mind their Business: The Man-Mother being a Woman of an undaunted Spirit, and having a nimble Tongue, and quick Invention: having Learned when abroad to Bounce, Huff, Smoak, Drink



Drink and Swear with any Bully-Ruffin, or G—dam ye in or about the Town; but at home among the Neighbourhood, always wearing the vigor of Temperance and Sobriety, carrying her self so craftily, that she in the least was not suspected to be any other than she seemed; by which having gained the good Opinion of her Neighbours: She was resolved to try to make use of their Purles, pretending that she had a great deal of Money due from the Navy-Office, which she was in a short time to receive; and to confirm their belief of it, shewed them several Counterfeit-Tickets, telling them that at present she had great occasion for Money, and was willing to Sell or Pawn the Tickets for half; which so wrought upon some, that they lent her Money upon them: So being pretty well enriched with their Spoils, which she termed *Egyptian*; the new Married Couple privately Bilks both them and the Landlord, removing by Night to a House which they had taken at the other end of the Town, to prevent discovery, there set up a Navy-House: The pretending Husband appearing in a plain Country Garb, which made all Comers take him (as so drest) for an innocent harmless Cuckold, behaving himself before People so simply, that every one judg'd him what he seem'd to be; and therefore at such convenient times made Addresses to the Young Wife when the Husband on purpose went abroad, or

was

was more than ordinary busie below: By which means they had a great Trade for a while. The supposed Husband or Mother, turning Pimp to her Daughter, and the Daughter when the Mother had a mind to some of the sweet and short Pleasure, would unman and turn Bawd to her; but at last dissuading some Sparks, and information was given for keeping a Disorderly House, and they were both brought before a Justice, which committed them both to the Famous Colledge of *Bridewell*, where the Mother had taken her Degrees before: There the keeper frequenting their Country-House, discovers the Cheating Metamorphosis; for which they were severely lashed.

### *The Contented Cuckold.*

**A**N Unnaturalliz'd Forreigner not long ago taking a Lodging in a Tradesman's House, which was grown none of the Richest, yet was Rich in having an Handsome Wife, which was never Blemished in her Reputation. The Forreigner having a Months mind to her, Courted her in her Husband's absence very importunately and expensively, but all to no purpose: He profering her Fifty Guineas, if she would permit him to lie with her, which she in disdain refused: But being Poor, privately told her Husband what was offered her, and upon what account, which scrat

ing his Head, knew not what to do, Poverty perswading on the one Hand, and Love hindering on the other from accepting the proffer: At last (says he) *My Dear there is, and may be a contrivance to have the Money and preserve thy Chastity too*: Which was thus, I'll pretend to go out of Town such a Day, then upon the Condition aforesaid, appoint him to come the Night following; and in the interim Stour Tom the Tinker for a Reward, and I, (will being well Armed,) lay under your Bed, and when he hath payed you the Gold, (which according to our *English* Custom you must have first) and he is just coming to Bed then we will crawl out and surprize him: Which was generally agreed upon, the Affignation being made, and he seeing the Husband on Horseback to go his Journey, yet fearing an Ambuscado, therefore besides his Sword, carried a Brace of Pistols charged with him. So at Night entring the Room, Carressed her *Ala made de France*, and being very Fiery could suffer no delays; so giving her the Gold, desired her to make what haste she could to Bed, and he would immediately follow. So both being undressed, he takes up his Sword and Pistols, and advanceth towards her in Bed, which she seeing, asked him what he meant? To which he replied nothing Madam! of harm, only me love to have all de Arms, my Sword by Side, me Pistols in me Hands, and de Dagger before, when we go to take a Citadel or Fort,

and



and laying down his Sword by his Bed-side, he jumps to the Bed with his Pistols, laying them just over his Head, not to loose time he Storm'd the Fort and took it. And notwithstanding he was several times beaten out of the Breach which was made in the Assault, yet he boldly crept again, and took Possession. The poor *Cuckold* and *Tinker* which lay under the Bed, could not but hear what was doing above, yet durst not stir; nay, not so much as whisper: So Monsieur having gone throw stich, being tired to boot, leaps out of Bed with all his Armour, having made use of nothing but the Dagger, whose hilt Edge being taken off and well Drencht, he begins to dress himself, and having done, he calls to his reaking *Mistress* to come to him, and bring the *Guineas*, but she pretending to be all in a Sweat, so that she might catch her Death by coming; thinking thereby to have excused herself: But Monsieur being Resolute, she thought it safest to obey, he claping a Pistol to her Breast, saying *Deer, Mrs. Bish fox, give me my Gold again, or Begone if you will not for Love, you shall never have my Money*; so taking the *Guineas* from her, he went Couragiously to his own Lodging: Then out crawl'd the *Cuckold* and *Coward* with his *Champion*, each blaming the other, and both the Woman: Which replied, *what would you have me to do, since he lay a top of me? Well, well, Flush* by this Covetous Stratagem of yours, you have finely made me a *Whore* as debas'd as *Mighty Goliath* a rank *Coward*, and yourself an unpardonable *Cuckold*,

*Ingenious*

*Ingenij Fructus:*

OR,

## The Way to be WITTY.

A Young Fellow in *Flanders* Sentenc'd to be Hanged, being come to the Place of Execution, spied several of his former Companions amongst the Mob, call'd to one, *Farewel Jack* (says he) we have often been Merry together over a Bottle, but now no more, for we must part for ever; Speaking something like this to the others, but up steps the Priest (the Hangman being near him) O Sir, (says he to the Criminal,) I wonder you will talk with such ill People as they are, it was such bad Company brought you to this place. Faith Mr. Priest, says the Poor Man, I never was in such bad Company in my Life as I am now. Meaning the Priest and the Hangman.

Two Philosophers (one a Native of *Athens*, and the other a *Seythian* born) Disputing very hotly, fell at length into a Passion, the Grecian way of Reproach call'd the *Seythian* Barbarian, to which he made this pretty Repar-

tee, *My Country is a disgrace to me, but thou art a disgrace to thy Country, being a Blockhead, tho' Born at Athens.*

In *Catalognia*, a Priest came up to a Soldier that stood Centinel at a Castle Gate, Brother, says the Priest to the Soldier, *I wish you Peace.* And I, replied the Soldier to the Priest, *Wish you no Purgatory, and then we shall be both Beggars.*

A Physician's Lady at *Amsterdam*, seeing the Master that taught her two Daughters to Sing, call'd him, and praised her Daughter Betty mightily for Singing so Charmingly, that all the Company upon a high Festival was extremely taken with her; but her Daughter *Moll* (tho' she Sung her best) was not ably prais'd, which made the good-Mother curious to know, what was the reason of the vast difference between the two Girls. Oh Madam, says the Master, Madam Betty has very good Ears, but Madam Mary has none at all, at which she call'd her Daughter *Moll* to her and opened her Hood, Lord Sir, replies she, *Why do you say so? See here, my Daughter Moll has as good Ears as any Girl in Town.*

At *Rome* there are two Statues, on which Pasquils and Lampoons with their answers are usually affixt, one called *Marforio*, the other *Pasquino*, a malicious Satyrical Fellow put a very dirty nasty Shirt upon *Pasquino*, and Libel upon *Marforio*, thus demanding, says *Marforio*, *How now Brother Pasquino, how can you to have sauch a Dam'd dirty Shirt, that no*



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3

be such a Spruce Fellow? Pasquino (by another Libel he had clapt on him) answered, *Why truly my Laundress is made a Princess.* The Pope just then having advanced his own Sister (who was before but a Laundress) to the Dignity of a Roman Princess.

Upon the aforesad Statues was also the following Lampoon or Pasquil, call it which you please.

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <i>The King of France is the most Christian King,</i> | Marforio. |
| <i>The King of France is not a Christian,</i>         | Pasquino. |
| <i>Therefore he can't be most Christian.</i>          |           |

At Brussels a Pick-pocket was Sentenced to be Whipt on a Scaffold very severely, the poor Rogue thinking to have favour from the Executioner, paumed him with a couple of Duckatons, about Eleven *English* Shillings value, the Fellow for all that laid on most unmercifully, the Patient calling to him, and turning his Head, saying, *Be gentle to me for the Money I gave you;* but all in vain, for he re-doubled the Blows; this Fellow when at Liberty plotted revenge, which he thus (a little too far) effected; spying one Day in a Crowd the Rascal that whipped him, he thrusts into his pocket some Money he had Stolen out of another Man's, and presently informs the Person robb'd, that that Man did it, for he saw him, he was taken, Tried and Sentenced to Dye; this Fellow-offered his Service to Hang him, which was accepted, and just as he was turning him off, he whisper'd him, *Don't you remember*

how damnably you jerk'd me, tho' I gave you Money, to spare my Skin, 'twas I Stole that Money you are Hang'd for, and put it into your Pocket: At which Words, the Fellow would have spoke to the Magistrates, but the Hangman did his job; and so prevented his prating, the Magistrates ask'd him what the Fellow said, He only ask'd me forgiveness, replys the Executioner.

The Duke D'alva being sent Embassador from the King of Spain, to the Court of Portugal, was received at some distance from Lisbon by a Person of Quality and that King's Coaches, into which the Duke was no sooner got and the Complements over, but he ask'd the Portugues Nobleman if the Court of Portugal was very fine? Yes Sir, replys he, the finest in the World, for there are Sixty as fine Men as you are, Forty such as I am, Six like God, and then the King my Master.

In France a Dog running at a Soldier, and he having a Pike in his Hand run him through and killed him, the Master of the Dog ask'd him, why he did not strike him with the blunt end of his Pike, so I would said he, If he had run at me with his Tail.

A Peasant coming to Paris with his Ass laden with Salt, the Beast stumbled, and the Driver beat him soundly for it; a Courtier passing by, chid him for it, and seeing him lay on the thicker, said, Sirrah desist or I'll break your Pate, upon which he did, but no sooner was the Gentleman gone, but the Peasant mauld

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mauld off the Afs. *Ye Dog you,* says he, *I little thought you had had a Friend at Court.*

A Dutchman being well equipt, and his Breeches strongly lined with Gilt, (called Money) his Father bid him go make Love to such a Lady of Fortune and Quality, as he directed him to, he being a little Bashful or Sheepish, wandred up and down the whole Day, without waiting upon her, and towards the Evening e'en made his Grandmother a visit, where he was better acquainted: Oh my dear Keit, (which is Child) says the old Gentlewoman, (hugging the Lad about the Neck) where hast thou been? So he told her the whole adventure; Come on, says she, you know I am poor e'en give me some of thy Money, and stay all Night and be with me, which he did, and at his return home, his Father ask'd him what success? So he told him the truth, and that he had lain all Night with his Grandmother, how now Sirrah, replies he, how durst you do so? *Why Sir,* says Booberkin, *Why should not I lie with your Mother, as well as you lie with mine?*

A Spanish Ship being cast away on the Coast of Scotland, the poor Tarrs half drowned, escaping to Shore, made up to the Scots, the People tho' none of the best natur'd in the World, yet they received the poor Marriners kindly, and bid them welcome, tho' having in each Family but one Bed, and that none of the best, they however each took one Spaniard.



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for a Guest, and decently laid him on the Wives left Hand, she in the middle, as great as the danger was the Tar had escap'd, 'twas soon forgot, for being warm abed, he began to be bulie with the Scotchman's Wife *Moggy*, the Husband perceiving it, what *Moggy* (quoth he) is the Man moving thee? Why do'st not speak to him. *Gwad Faith Man, I can't speak Spanish.*

A *Danish* Nobleman fam'd for Drinking hard, and being in Company with a King, and tipping it about briskly, a certain Duke of that Princes Court came to the Door, and ask'd to speak with the *Dane*, Who is it, says the *Dane*, the Duke of——— puh, replies the *Dane*, he may e'en go about his business, I'll Drink with none but Kings to Night, *it may be Dukes may go down with me to Morrow.*

A *German* Prince having drank very highly one whole Day, and being very Sick the next Morning, his Jester waiting upon him, ask'd his Highness how he did; he was pleased to answer, truly he had made himself Sick with Drinking too much, puh says the Fool, if that be all I'll be your Doctor, why what will you do to me, replies the Prince, e'en says the Jester advise you to take a hair of the same Dog, and so on with a Continuandos, than you may be Drunk for a Month together, and what then, says his Serenity, *Why then*, adds the Jester, *You will soon be as great a Fool as I am.*

In *Burgundy* a Gentleman bring in his Vineyard,

ward, espied a whole Drove of Hoggs there, which threw him into a passion, and made him swear that those Hoggs belonged to some Cuckoldly Rogue or Rascal, for hwich bidding his servant turn them out. Hold Sir, says his Man, they are your Worships own Hoggs. Damn me for a Fool, says his Master, what have I call'd myself, *Why Sir,* replies the Servant, 'Tis not yours but my *Mistresses* fault.

*Gustavus Adolphus* King of *Sweedon*, attacking a very strong Town, with a very small handful of Men, the besieged in Derision hung out a Goose for him to Shoot at; but soon to their Cost, finding that a breach was made in their Works, wide enough for a Storm, and their Town a Fire in several places, they beat a Parley, and demanded to know the King's meaning, his Majesty sent them word, *His design was only to roast their Goose.*

That Excellent Poet *Virgil*, was so high in *Augustus Caesars* favour for his great Learning and Wit, that he daily receiv'd an allowance of Bread from the Emperors Table, who one Day being in private and very pleasant with the Poet, ask'd him who he thought was his Father? Indeed Sir, answers he, I believe he was a Baker, why a Baker, says *Caesar*? Replies *Virgil*, *Because you give me nothing but Bread.* Upon which the Emperor soon turn'd the Bread into Money.

That Celebrated Painter *Apalles*, having drawn the Picture of *Alexander the Great* on Horseback,

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Horseback, and presenting it one Day to his Majesty, he seem'd not extraordinarily taken with it, nor did he praise it (tho' excellently well done) to that degree that the Painter expected; which baulk'd him, so he desired a live Horse might be brought to him, who no sooner being come, but he began to paw the Picture, and neigh, *I see, says Apallet, This Horse understands Painting better than Alexander.*

The Late Queen of Spain having nothing left that was *French* about her but two Parakeets, the Dutches of *Fierra Nueva* her Groom of the Stool, in mere spight one Day kill'd them both, when her Majesty was abroad hunting with the King, which the Queen finding at her return, into her Royal Apartment sat down and wept, in the Evening the Dutches coming (as 'tis the custom in that Court to kiss her Majesties Hand) at the Coughée She was pleas'd to give her a swinging box on the Ear, the Dutches affronted at that, flew into the City, and rais'd four Hundred of her Family (most great People) and brought them to the Court, to go with her to the King, to make her complaint against the Queen, which she had no sooner done, but the King in anger sends for the Queen, who being in sight, the King said *Senora, Madam*, the Queen knowing his Mind, stopt him, and said, *Senor et un eto jo*, Sir, it was a Fit of a longing Woman (tho' she was not with Child) which made me strike the Dutches, which



which so pleas'd the King, who believed it, that he told the Dutchess, *If she were not satisfied with that, the Queen should give her Eleven more, and make them up a Dozen.*

The same Prince sometime before missing the Queen out of Bed one Night, call'd for her, and ask'd where she was? Her Majesty answered, feeling about for my Dog, *Fie Madam, says the King, come to bed, Is it not a shame for the Queen of Spain to be groping about the dark, for an ugly French Dog?*

A Neopolitan King had a most beautiful Mule presented him, many of the Courtiers prais'd it for a very curious Creature, some admiring his Head, others his Limbs, one look'd in his Mouth, and the Jester took up his Tail, at which the King and Court Laugh'd, Why, says the Fool in a Passion, I think I was more in the right than he that look'd in the Mules Mouth, *For we ought never to look a Gift Horse in the Mouth.*

An Old Lawyer of the *Hague* had a very handsome Wife, who was in Love with one of his Clerks; and in her Husbands absence would often come into the Office, and toy with the Youth, and hinder his Writing, upon which the Youngster takes a bit of Chalk, and draws a Line on the Ground, saying, if she came over that, to disturb him any more, he would throw her upon the Bed and toize her about briskly, Say you so, says she, I'll venture that, and so stept over the Line, the Spark

was as good as his Word, and she happn'd to be very well pleased; a little Child of her playing about, observed what past, at his Fathers coming home, and going to give the Clerk some Writings to dispatch, *Hold Father* says the Child, *don't step over that Line that is chalk'd, if you do, our Clerk will serve you as he did my Mother, for she did but step over, and he took her up in his Arms and threw her down upon the Bed, and rumpled all her Clothes sadly.*

A swinging German that had a huge Stomach being at Rotterdam in an Ordinary, having a great piece of Roast-Beef set before him, cut sometimes at one end, then at another, then in the middle, then the out, nay, and inside, notice was taken of it, so he was desired to cut handsomely, *Ay that I will,* says he, and eat every bit on't too, *before I budge.*

*William the First of Orange*, being mightily prest by Counts *Egmont* and *Horn* (two leading Men in those Provinces) to go with them to Compliment Duke *D'alpha*, the new Spanish Governour, lately arriv'd at *Brussels*, the Prince wholly declined it, and endeavoured to dissuade them from going, but could not, so at parting, the Counts said, *Farewel Prince without Lands*, replys the Prince, *Then farewell Counts without Heads*, which last soon came to pass for they were Beheaded by the King of Spain's Command, and the Prince saved himself and recover'd his Estate, and beat the Spaniards, and Establish'd the Dutch Common-wealth.

When

When the Heads of those two Gentlemen, before mention'd, were struck off in the Market-place of Brussels, the French Ambassador said, *It signified nothing, so long as they could get old Silent and Thoughtful,* meaning the said Prince, William the first.

A Gentleman in Holland, told an Englishman that there were three sorts of Vermin in England, say you so Sir, says he, I am glad there is no more, but prethee what are they? replies t'other, *Parsons, Physitians, and Lawyers.*

A School-Master having reflected severely, and wittily, upon an Eminent Poet's Play, they met at a Coffee-house, the Poet being told that 'twas the Man that had mauld him so, he came to him; and ask'd him what he was? Why, says he, *That's a rude Question, but if you must know, I am a Habberdasher of Nouns and Proverbs.*

A Clipper being Sentenc'd to Death, when he came to Tyburn, the Parson was very busie preparing him for another World, amongst other things he told the Criminal, that it was no small Happiness to have had so much time to Repent, that he might have died suddenly, and by many Accidents, and so have been snatch'd away in a Moment, and gone headlong down to Hell; but that now he was almost sure that he shou'd go to Heaven, and lie in Abraham's Bosom; Say you so, Sir, says the poor Patient, *'tis very good News, but if you please you shall have my Place, for I'd rather stay here a little longer.*

The



The Subscribers to the *National-Land-Bank*, being met at *Draper's-Hall*, to chuse Directors and Managers, there happen'd to be a Gentleman that had a great hole in his Stocking behind, just above his Shooe, one observing it, said, 'twas an ill Omen to their Bank, to have one of their Members out at Heels. Oh says another, I believe the greatest part of the Company are out at the Heels, and come hither to have them mended at three *per. Cent.*

A Witty Pleasant Knight much given to Bantring, in which he had a happy Vein, being in Company with an honest plain Yeoman of *Kent*, (amongst others) began to exercise his Faculty, and fell a little too hard upon the Country-man, which at last provok'd him too high, that up he got, spit in his Fist, and swore he'd cuff him into good Manners: Sir, says he, the King has dubb'd ye, and I'll drub ye, by G——, And so he did very heartily.

A Dutch Gentleman, call'd *Mijn Heer Van Brant*, having a very red Face; and full of Pimples, was always very uneasie under the Barber's Hands, and being besides a Mad Spark, us'd to Curse and Swear *Sacrament*, (the Dutch Oath) and scarr the poor Shavers, at last when his Chin grew very difficult to be par'd he told a Top-Barber in *Amsterdam*, he would give him a Pistol if he shaved him without fetching Blood, but if one drop came he would stab him to the Heart; the Fellow was afraid and would not undertake it, but his Man did

and came off very well, and received his Reward: But says Mr. *Mijn Heer*, Were not you a silly bold Fellow, to venture your Life for Seventeen Shillings and Six pence? No Sir, says he, For if I had cut but one Pimple, I would presently have cut your Throat, and so spoil'd your Stabbing of me.

A Gentleman hired a Servant, and told him he must do whatever he commanded him, to which he replied, Yes, he would most faithfully. The Gentleman presently let a Fart, go fetch me that, says he, to his Man, Yes, Sir, says he, and lets another, there Sir, says he, 'tis.

A Gentleman having left a Bag of Money in a Hackney-Coach, besides an Advertisement in the *Gazet*, he put up a Paper at the *Exchange*, that he would give a sixth part (*viz.* 20 *l.*) to the Coachman, if he would bring him his Money, the Fellow hearing of the offer, went to the *Exchange* and writ on the Paper, *Then shall I be the Losser*, which was all the Gentleman had for his Coin.

The late Earl of *Rochester*, and a Knot of his Witty Companions, coming to visit an honest Gentleman of the same Strain, that was very ill a bed, and given over by his Physicians; after Mutual Salutes, and expressions of Sorrow for their Friends Indisposition, and a Glass or two of Claret gone round about, says my Lord *Rochester*, 'Tis fit we should prepare an Epitaph for *Will. Crem*, before he dies, and I think

I have half a Distick ready, which shall be thus: *Here lies Will Crew who died of the Pox,* and being a good while scrating his Nodde, (as did the rest) yet could not match that Verse; when alas, poor *Will* himself raising his Head a little up, said, thus it shall be.

*Here lies Will. Crew, who died of the Pox,  
As True a Martyr as any is in Fox.*

At which the Company laugh'd heartily, to find that tho' *Will's* Strength fail'd, yet his Wit had not left him.

A Gentleman being Convicted at the Sessions-house in the *Old Bailey*, for Robbing on the High-Way, the Judge being ready to pronounce Sentence, asked the Criminal what he could say for himself, he replied, He only desired he might be Hang'd the New fashion'd way, how is that, says the Judge? as *Cromwel* was Sir, says the Gentleman, two Years after I am Dead.

A Knot of Jolly Tarpaulins passing through *Lombard-street*, and talking aloud and making a Noise as they use to do, one of them call'd out to the rest, O! Lord, says he, what a fine sign there is, a Leg of *Mutton* and *Crown*, and so it past, for they all Laugh'd, when as it was a Haunch of *Venison* and *Crown*, but it was all one to them, they knew not the difference.

*Ben. Johnson* the Famed Poet, being in very ordinary Company, and poor too; as it seems, for they could not pay the Reckoning (which

was



was but small) though they muster'd all their Forces, so *Ben.* made a Proposal to them, that he who should make the worst Verse or Rhimes amongst them, should pay the whole, thinking by this he had made a pretty good Bargain, at least for himself, because he was in his Profession, and they all plain honest Country Fellows, so they began; *Ben.* first, whose Poetry pleased them all, says the next.

*We Eat, we Drink, we Part, we Stink, and all to  
(Ease us,*

*Then fits Ben. Johnson, and Swears 'tis good by  
(Jesus.*

Which being *Ben's* Oath, and the Rhime good, so pleas'd the Old Blade, that he swore by *Jesus* he would pay all the Reckoning, and so he did.

A Gentlewoman in the Country, had amongst her Servants a lusty Bumkin Lad, whose Name was *Hugh*, a Gentleman coming to the House, in Merriment called him *Hugo*, which soon became common among the Servants, so a plain Country Fellow being there one Day, and hearing them call the Lad *Hugo*, Pray, says he, what is his Name? For I never heard the like before, answers one (and a Witty Fellow too you may swear, because he knew no better) the Young Man's name is *Hugh*, but for Brevity we call him *Hugo*.

A Dutchman and his Wife were quarreling one with another, about a trivial Matter, (as it often happens) which was where a particular

lar Chest should stand, says the Man; I'll have it stand in this place: Answers the Woman, and I'll have it stand in that place, why sure, says the Husband, am not I the Head, and shan't I govern and do what I please? Yes, answers the Wife, you are the Head, but the Chest shall stand where I'll have it.

A Gentleman making Addresses of Love to a young Lady, often swore by his Soul that he would be very faithful to her, in keeping all the Promises he had made; but however, failing in some small Matters, she was afraid to venture on to a Marriage, lest he should deceive her in greater, which he perceiving, said that would pawn her Soul upon it, Ay, Sir, replied the Lady, you must find out a better Pattern, for that has been dipt so often, there's nothing more to be lent upon.

A Famous Vintner in *London*, having a very Red Nose and a very White Hand, was asked by a Lady (in Company) what he did to his Hands to make them look so pure white, Madam, says he, I lay them every Night betwixt my Wives Legs, and pray Sir, replys she, Why don't you lay your Nose there too.

A Genteel Fellow, whose Profession was picking of Pockets; seeing a Lady adorned with a very fine Breast-Jewel, and having a great mind to be Master of it, he address'd the Lady, pretending to some Acquaintance, but being really a Stranger, she was a little shy of him, and upon his approach, clapt both her Hands  
upon

upon her Jewels to save it, fearing some design; the Gentleman to remove her Hands, laid his upon her Veneris, which obliged her to tell him, *He could not take that away with him, tho' he might her Jewel.*

In mixt Company it was ask'd, What was the best Dish of Meat in the World, a Gentleman answer'd Roast-Beef and Rosemary, no, says a Parson (among them) for I think a cold Wife and Rosemary is the best Dish, for which the Doctor who is since Married, is sufficiently jeer'd, and don't love to hear of it.

A Faulkener who was a Lusty, Brisque, Vigorous Fellow, meeting one Morning early an Old Woman in a Wood, had a great mind to have about with her, Alas! Sir, says the Old Woman, you are but in jest, No, replys he, but you shall see that I am in earnest, with that he laid her down, with her Bum upon a Mole-Hill, and whisk'd her purely, up she got, made him a fine Courtesy, and thank'd him, and prayed to God to bless him, for truly she had not had so good Breakfast these twenty Years past.

A Pleasant Gentleman meeting a Young Woman in the Street without Stockings, says, he, Those Stockings have lasted you a great while, and have never a hole in them yet, when they have, if you'l come to me I will go to a Shop and buy you a New pair: Why then, Sir, replys the Woman, you muste'en do it now, for I have got a great hole at the top of my



my Stockings, and pulling up her Coats, says she, look ye here, is not it true?

A Woman upon the Way where many People pass, was making a heavy Moan, and crying aloud; a Tender-hearted Gentleman, who knew her, called her by her Name, Well, says he, *Mary Fish* what ails you, that you are so full of Grief? Indeed Sir, replies she, a heavy Misfortune has befallen me to Day, which if it happened to you, would have troubled you more. What is't? What is't? says the Gentleman, Alas, says the Wanton Baggage, I had two Stones (meaning her Husband who lay with her) taken from my Belly this Morning, which if they had been taken from yours, would have made you cry'd worse than I do now.

One Gentlewoman coming to make another a Visit, addressed her very civilly, and excused her long absence, saying, That she had been beyond Seas some Years; indeed Madam, replies the t'other, I don't know ye, or at least have forgot ye. Oh! Madam, says she, that may very well be, but my Name is *Johnson*. Alas, replies the t'other, I beg your Pardon a Thousand times, for now I recollect my self. I remember I know your Name, and phancied before I knew you by your Phismigig, which made all the Company fall a Laughing, which put the Lady to the blush. Why, says she, what shou'd I have said? Phisiognomy Answers one, O Lord, says She, that is a hard Word, and I am no Schollard.

A Gentlewoman's Back itching, desired a Gentleman (a Gallant of hers) to scratch it, which he did, but his Nails being too long, he cried out, O Lord you hurt me, pray rub with your Hand, which he did, and pleased her so well that she told him, He could Rub better than Scratch.

A Gentleman hearing a Fish-Woman cry about the Streets, *Come buy my dainty Barrel-Cod*, asked his Mistress who heard it, which was best? Barril-Cod, or Breeches-Cod, replies she, Both in their Season, Barril-Cod at Board, and Breeches-Cod in Bed.

A Boy being (as he pretended) very Sick, would needs go to Bed, and living with his Grandmother, the good Old Gentlewoman took Compassion on him, thinking him to be really very ill, so she sent for a Doctor, who prescribed strong Doses for the Lad, but he would not take any of them, so the good Lady asked him if he would have a Caudle or some Suggar-Sops, both and you will Grandmother, replies the Boy, as Sick as he was, which is biggest will be best.

A Gentleman giving his Son diverse Instructions, amongst others, he charged him always to keep Money in his Pocket. Sir, replies the Youngster, I don't remember any such Advice given by Solomon to his Son: That may be, says the Old Dad, but I am sure amongst all that Wise King's Proverbs there is not a better.

A Court-Fool (as they called him, though a very

very Cunning one) having plaid the Black with his Tongue, and discovered some Practices against the State, which he had heard whispered up and down, the King was in Choler and commanded the poor Fool to be Rack'd to fetch it all out of him, so when the Tormentors came to him, Pray Gentlemen, says he, was the King in earnest, I can scarce believe it, the Tormentors told him he would when he felt it. I pray, says he, have any of you felt it, to tell me what it is? No, Sir, says they, but some of your Fellow Courtiers can tell you, they use something like it to mend their Shapes, 'twill make you so straight and slender. Slender! replies the Fool, what because I was slender in my Wits, must I be drawn slender in my Waist?

A Countrey Gentleman asking a Courtier what was the greatest Sin at Court? Truly Sir, replies he, *To speak Truth*, a thing not much in Fashion here.

A Dutch Gentleman just going into the Rack found himself very dry, and desired he might be permitted to drink some Wine, as well to quench his Thirst, as to Fortifie him against the approaching Pain: It was granted, and a Bottle brought, of which he drank the greater part. Hold Sir, says the Executioner, you have no Measure of your self. Replies the poor Criminal, What do you talk of Measure, you shall take Measure of me with a Vengeance by and by.



An Eminent Vintner in *London* having Married a Light Lady, began to be very uneasie and curious, and having observed how matters mov'd, he caught one of his Drawers abed with his Wife, of which he seemed to take little notice, but went immediately to his Father-in-law, and told him what had happened in his Family; Hah, says the Old Gentleman, 'tis a bad job, but however, here is a hundred Pound for you, e'en go home and be quiet, her Mother used to serve me so, and the Daughter will leave it when she is Old.

A Topping Meal-man in *Smithfield*, who had a very Handsome Wife, that was mightily given to Kissing in his absence, one Day he had taken his leave of her, to go to *St. Albans* to buy Corn, he returned back (having forgot something) in an Hour or two after he set out, an Apothecary of the Neighbourhood, who was abed with the Meal-man's Wife, hearing the Husband's Voice, whipt out of Bed, and hid himself, but left his breeches behind him upon the Bed, the Meal-man coming up, seized upon them, and found some Gold in one Fob, and a Watch in t'other, both which he took out, and went his way, but as he past through his own Shop, he was in a damn'd Fury, and Swore and Curst, but found no Body, some Neighbours hearing him, asked him what was the Matter? Why, true says he, A Damn'd Dog has pist in my Entry, and if I could catch him, I would beat him till he Stunk again.

A

A Gentleman having crossed the Water from the *Temple* to the Old *Barge-house*, intending to take the Air in *St. Georges's Fields* as he past, he saw a pretty Woman look out of a Window, and being desirous of her Acquaintance, was accordingly gratified, and after a Dialogue or two had past between them they were very Intimate, and indeed Familiar too, and having agreed upon the Matter, they went to the old Sport, the Gentleman being well hung, (as 'tis commonly call'd) or well made (chuse which you will,) and the Lady a little Strait, he put her to some Pain, which was soon over. Lord Sir, says She, you are a Strange Man, I never met with such a one in my Life, you may be compared to our New Steeple, and I to our Old Church (call'd *Christ Church*) for one is a great deal too big for 'other, though 'tis not usual for a Steeple to be too big for a Church.

A Parson coming to a Witty, but Wanton Gentleman for his Advice, what he should do with his Parishoners, who were ever thwarting and plaguing him, that he was e'en weary of his Life, and with'd himself from among them. Why Faith, says the Gentleman, I am not good to advise with in such Matters but if you will be ruled by me, I would have ye Preach up false Doctrine, and so damn them all, and that is a very quick way of Revenge.

Some Sawcy Priests being in mixt Company

were calling themselves Ministers of Jesus Christ, and Embassadors from God, and Cœlestial Monitors, and Heavenly Lights to direct the World, and lead them in the True Paths of Bliss and future Felicity. Ah, says a pleasant Gentleman that sat by, you are all very pretty Fellows I must confess, you doresemble (in my Opinion) Lights; I have a very dark Entry at home, I wish I had one of you to Hang there, and indeed I think you would all be disposed after that manner.

A Gentleman in a Town in *Hartfordshire*, being much in Debt, was oblig'd to keep House close, a Bailiff who had been promised a great Reward to take that Gentleman, having made several attempts in vain to snap him, at last resolv'd upon one that he thought could not fail, so pretending himself in dispair, came by the Gentlemans Parlor-Window, (which was next the Street, and where he sat Writing every Day) and pulling out of his Pocket a Halter, made a Nooze, and seem'd as if he intended to Hang himself therewith, a Grindstone before the Door, upon which he got up, and threw the Rope over a good Bough of the Tree, and fastned it, and then put his head in, concluding the Gentleman would whip out, and so he should arrest him, but as the Devil would have it, the Grindstone which stood firm like a Rock for him to get up, tumbled down as soon as ever the Halter was about his Neck, the Innocent, Unwary-Gentleman



tleman seeing what past, sallied out, to cut the Rope, and save the Man, but the Bailiff's Follower lying in Ambuscade, snap'd the Gentleman as soon as ever he peep't out, and carried him off, and let his Master Hang, who carried the Jest too far, and when the Gentleman told the Bailiff's Follower that his Master would soon be Dead if he did not cut him down, Let him be Damn'd, said he, I have got my Prize, and I shall have the Reward, and my Masters Place too.

A Lady of Quality of the Court, coming into the City to buy some Silks and rich Brocades of an Eminent Mercer, when she came into the Shop, She spied four or five little Children playing together, she went to them, and stroaked them, and said they were pretty Rogues, and asked the Mercer if they were his, truly Madam, replies he, I can't tell, my Wife knows best, Indeed I suspect they are not, they are too pretty, and look more like Courtiers and Noblemen's Children, and I am apt to believe they may be so, for those Sparks come often into the City, to visit our Dames and take them abroad with them, and treat them, but however the Matter is not much for those Gentlemen are as well serv'd at home. How is that, says the Dutchesse? Why, replies the Citizen, their Grooms and Coachmen, are at the same time getting Children for them.

A Nobleman having kept a Mistress many Years

Years, who like a cunning Baggage had wheedled him out of the best part of his Estate, which was settled upon her; (which I say was a rare piece of Craft,) for those Wanton Ladies like Witches are seldom rich, and made the Old Blade, now and then have un-  
easy Moments; She had also exhausted all the best Blood out of his Veins; she grew weary of him, and he of her: He being one Day in a very great Passion, came to take his leave of her, and Solemnly bid her Farewel: With all my Heart, says She, Farewel Poverty, Old Age, Flannel and Brandy; for now thou art good for nothing.

A Gentleman being in Company with some Ladies, who talked very Amorously, felt an odd sort of Motion in his Breeches: So he whisper'd one of the Ladies in the Ear, and told her that his Fuscé was Cock'd. Is it so, says She? Then you may Fire at me if you please; I'll stand ye, I am not afraid of your blints, altho' there be two of them.

A Dutchman having long address'd his Maid, to let him enjoy her, and been often repulsed, almost despair'd effecting it; but going into the Cellar to tast a Tub of old Hock, he had laid by for some choice Friends, to come and quaff off; he knock'd against the Head, and finding sound Hollow, he perceived 'twas all drawn out, so charging his Maid with it, (who happen'd to be then in the Cellar) She confessed she had drank it all her self at times. Well,

E

says

says he, if you won't let me now do what I have so often desired; I will tell your Mistress. She shall turn you away, and make you pay for it besides: Upon which the Wench consented, so he laid her down upon the empty Cask, and was Exercising her; at that very Minute his Wife called to him, and asked him where he was, and what he was doing? He answered, and told her he was in the Cellar, and that he would come up presently, he was only stopping the Leak, which he had now found, at which all his Old Hock run out.

A Beggar using to go always Naked; was asked by a Tender-hearted Charitable Creature, how he could bear the Cold in Frosty Weather. Oh, says he, I am Face all over.

A Gentleman sent his Son to School, to one of the Top-Masters of the Kingdom; who really took a great deal of pains with him, but in vain, and finding 'twas impossible to make any Learning enter into him, brought him home to his Father, and told the Old Gentleman what a Block-head he was, that it was Money and Time thrown away upon him; therefore advised him to put him out to some Trade: All which troubled the Dad extremely, for he had conceiv'd great hopes of that Boy; so he prest the School-Master to take him back again, and try what he could do, if he had Learning enough to make a Parson, he did not care; for (he thought) that was the best Trade in the World.



An Eminent States-Man of *Holland*, being accused at his Return from his Embassy, at the Court of *France*, of not having followed his Instructions; and being upon his Tryal in open Court, the Attorney-General charged him moreover with saying to several People, that such and such (naming them) Great Men among the States (then at the Tryal) were Rogues, Rascals and Traytors to their Countrey: To which the Embassador, (with great submission and deference) mildly desired that he might be allowed the Favour, to answer then to that very Point, which should be short, (the rest he would leave to his Advocate) which was granted: My Lords, says he, 'tis impossible that such a thing should be proved upon me, for I take God to Witness I never said in my Life, that those Great Men among the States [now present] were Rogues, Rascals, or Traytors to their Countrey; though I must confess, I have thought so a Thousand times.

A Plain Country Woman pressing hard to see the King, then on his Royal Progress, and just come out of his Coach at *Northampton*; when she came close, and had well viewed his Majesty: By my Troth, says she, (aloud) I have a Handsomer Man to my Husband. The King over-hearing her, turned about, saw, and came to her, and said, You may have a Handsomer Man to your Husband; but pray do not speak so loud, for I am upon my Preferment.

Another Woman of the same Cut and Cunning, labouring hard to get through the Crowd, to come very near to the King, and having cast her Eyes round about his Majestys Person, and finding it to be but Slender and of small Stature: Oh Lord, says She! (speaking a little to high, after her Country manner) What great Things God can bring about by small means!

A Brisk Mettled Lady, being Indicted of High Treason, against the Person of the late King *James*, and being acquitted, there appeared nothing Material against her; as She was going out of the Court, She muttered extremely, and made some smart Reflections upon the Lord Chief Justice *Jefferies*, before whom she was tried. You Woman, says my Lord, what's that you say? My Lord, says she, I have had hard Measure to be acculed of such an horrid Crime, and exposed, when I was altogether Innocent of the matter. Go, go, says *Jefferies*, about your business, and prate so to your Husband when you come home: You are mistaken Sir, says she, I dare as little prate to my Husband, as you dare prate to your Wife.

An *English* Gentleman being told that a Scotch Noble Man was to be Banished (for being in a Conspiracy against King *William*) to France. Puh, says he, 'tis but a jest. Why so Sir, says the Scotch Man? Do you think the Government's in Jest, and that they won't do it.

it? No, replys the *English* Man, I don't deny but they may do it: But I say, 'tis a Jest to Banish a Man from *Scotland* to *France*, from a bad Country to a better.

A *Quaker*, a Cunning Sharp Fellow, brought up and Conversant in Business; was asked by some great Men, What would be the best and most effectual way to ruin the *Scotch East-India* Company? Why verily Friend, replied the *Quaker*, I know but one way, and that is to send our Lords of the *Admiralty* thither, and make them theirs.

A *Scotch* Gentleman being asked by an *English* Man, Why they served the King so ill in their Business, of their *East-India* Company. Answered very briskly, Sir, indeed it must be confess'd, the King of *England* was ill served, but the King of *Scotland* very well served.

A Gentleman coming to a Lawyer's Chamber in the *Temple*, seeing a Servant near the Door, asked him, if that was Mr. *Allen's* Chamber, which he repeating two or three times, and the Fellow making no Answer, he was in a Passion, and going to lift up his Cane. Sir, says the Servant, I am a little thick of hearing. Ay, replys the Gentleman, and thick in understanding too!

*Gondamor* the Famous *Spanish* Embassador, when in *England*, had a Mind to view the Countrey, and being on his Journey, and pretty far *West*, near the Borders of *Cornwall*, the Roads were Stony and Bad, which to avoid,



his Coach going a little out of the Way, stuck in a Swamp; one of the Attendants seeing a Country Fellow at work at some distance, Rod up to him, and desired his help; telling him the Embassador's Coach was so fast, it must be cut out with a Spade. And there, says the Country Fellow it may stick for me, for I shan't meddle with State-Affairs.

A Gentleman visiting a Lady, took up a piece of Fullers Earth, which lay in her Window. Sir, says She, you little think what that is good for: Yes, replies he, to get Spots out of Clothes. Ay but, says She, 'tis an excellent thing for those that are Gaul'd with Riding. I hope Madam, says he, you are never Gaul'd with Riding: No Sir, replies She, nor with being Rid neither.

An Irish Gentleman being in England, received a Letter from his Sister then in Ireland; in which She told him She was going to be Married to such an One, naming him; but was resolv'd her Nuptials should not be Celebrated till his return, desiring the Honour of his presence; to which She pressed him mightily, and that he would make hast: For truly, adds She, You know dear Brother, Time is very precious with me, and I cannot tarry.

A Great Projector and Engineer, being in Company with some Gentlemen at a Tavern in the Evening; the Master of the House to oblige his Guests, brought out the remainder of a Surloin of Roast-Beef, almost bare, being picked

icked a little too close: Says one of the Gentlemen, let the Maid seperate the Bones, and when we may come at a little Meat. Says the Engineer, I have got an an Engin at home for that, which made all the Company laugh, and himself blush, for being so forward a Fool.

A Poet who was very low in the Pocket, was extremely provoked by one in Company, who had affronted him, by some severe Reflections cast upon him; began to Swear and Curse, at last says he, May this be your Fate, may you have many Debtors, and all like me, and then you will be as poor as I am.

*William* the Conqueror being Corpulent, and thereupon a little uneasie to himself; was resolved by a thin and slender Diet to Reduce himself: The *French* King hearing of it, asked when his Lying in would be over, which being told the Conqueror, he sent that King Word, that as soon as ever he was Church'd, would make him a Visit, and light such Fires in *France*, that should not easily be extinguished. He was as good as his Word, for as soon as he was able to mount a Horse, he invaded *France*, and Burn'd several Towns, Ravag'd and Plunder'd where ever he came.

Just after the Discovery of the Damn'd Design, and Barbarous Plot, to Assassinate King *William* the Third; two Honest Gentlemen being at a Tavern together, were talking of it, and one said what a base and ungenerous

And it would have been, to destroyed an Enemy so brave, after such a Butcher-like manner! Ay, says to'ther, 'tis true, but it seems it was to make way for an Old Popish Bigot to come again, and 'tis reported, he is really Embarked in or to come; then we shall have nothing but Fire and Faggot. Hold, says to'ther, if it should be so, I hope we shall have a Brush first.

A Pleasant Lady told a Traveller of her Acquaintance, with whom she was very Familiar, (upon his demanding, What News? That the King had given the Tower of London away: To whom, says he. To my Arse, answers She, and you shall be the Lieutenant.

One that was very deep in Debt to several Citizens of London, was always in Pain when he was there; it happen'd as he walked along one Evening, his Cloak caught hold of a Tenter-Hook, which scar'd him, and made him ask immediately, at whose Suit? thinking he had been Arrested.

Once a Dunce void of Learning, but full of Books, flouted a Libraryless Schollar, with these Words, *Salve Doctor sine Libris*: But the next Day, the Schollar coming into this Jeerers Study, crowded with Books, *Salvete Libri* (said he) *sine Doctore*.

A Pleasant Countrey Fellow, told his Companions, that he could have what Weather he pleas'd; at which they Laughed, and said, 'twas impossible, for the Planets, as they had heard



heard Govern'd the World and the Weather  
 ro. You are Fools, says he, for what Wea-  
 ther pleases God, pleases me; and now I hope  
 have made it out.

A Condemn'd Person riding up *Hobourn-  
 Hill* in a Cart, in his way to *Tyburn* to be Hang-  
 d, desired to call at the *Horn-Tavern*, to take  
 a Glass of Wine to Comfort his Heart, and  
 keep up his Spirits, which were then very faint;  
 After he had let down two or three Bumpers  
 of Claret, the Vintner asked him if the Wine  
 was Good. Ay, says he, 'tis most Excellent  
 Wine if a Man could but stay by it.

Some *Scotch* Men being in Company with  
 some *English*, they began to Banter and Jeer  
 one another; says one of the *English* Men,  
 Was not he a great Rogue that sold his King?  
 (meaning *Charles* the First, who fled to the  
 Scots for Protection) Yes, says the *Scotch* Man;  
 but he was a greater that gave the Mony:  
 adds another, But he was the greatest of all  
 that Cut off his Head.

A light House-wife Married One, whose  
 name was *Not*, whom she Cuckolded and Bu-  
 sed: At her Death, a Schollar made these  
 verses on her,  
 Not a Maid, Not a Wife, Not a Willdow, Not a Where,  
 She was not these, and yet she was all Four.

A Woman very much addicted to Tipling,  
 and having a Cup of a large size, out of which  
 she usually drank, and in which she never left  
 a drop, her Husband chid her for it, and

said, It was not decent for a Woman to drink so great a quantity: She told him, that the *Virgin-Mary* being at the bottom of the Cup, she could not but admire her beautiful Face: Upon which he broke that Cup and bought her another something less, with the Devil painted at the bottom of it; however, She always swallowed up all the Liquor in it; and being reprimanded again by her Husband for her excessive Drinking: Oh, says she, I do it because the foul Fiend should not have one drop of it.

An *Irish* Earl (who had also an *Irish* Understanding) being at Court, pull'd out his Comb to put his *Péruque* in order, before he went into the Presence, and hapning to let it fall it broke, being brittle, into pieces which troubled his Lordship mightily, being of Tortoiseshell, and of some value; and seeming a little Thoughtful or Melancholly, for so heavy Disaster; a Gentleman unacquainted with the Accident, taking notice of the humour; ask'd Quality, What was the cause of his being so pensive? Why truly says the Earlship, I let a fine Comb fall just now, and broke it into three halves.

A Lady found fault with a Gentleman Dancing, saying, That he straddled too much: To which he replied, Madam, if you had that betwixt your Legs, that I have betwixt mine, you would straddle much more and wider.

Amongst some Women that were chafing of their Husbands, truly one said, My Husband is the Liquorishest Man in the World; for I had a small Pot of Honey come from *Hamshire* from a dear Friend, and I can no sooner turn my Breech upon him, but his Nose will be in it.

One Squire *Stewtely* a younger Brother, of a good Family in *Devonshire*, having spent his Patrimony, he fell upon Projects, the usual refuge of Bankrupts; and first pitch'd upon the Peopling of *Florida*, then lately discover'd in *America*, and was so Confident and Ambitious, without blushing to tell Queen *Elizabeth* of *England*, That he had rather be Sovereign of a Mole-hill, than be highest Subject to the greatest King in *Christendom*; adding, moreover that he was sure he should be a Prince before his Death. I hope, says the Queen, I shall hear from you when you are Stated in your Principality. Yes, Madam, answers *Stewtely*, I will write to you: In what Language, demands the Queen? In the Style of Princes, returns he, To our Dear Sister.

An *Irish* Man being at a Tavern with some English Gentlemen, was very Pleasant and Merry, and swallowed down all the Healths that were begun, so being about to part: Says one of the Company, come let us take Bumpers to the good Success of his Majestys Forces by Sea and Land, which was agreed; and when it came to *Teague's* turn, he thinking to mend the



the matter, and speak finer than the rest. Here, says he, is to the good Success of his Majestys Naval Forces by Sea and Land.

What a sad condition am I in, said a Fellow that was set in the Stocks, for I can see over the Wood, and under, and through the Wood, but as yet cannot get out of the Wood.

King *Charles* the Second, after the defeat of his Army in the Battle of *Worcester*, being forced to scower for it, found Friends to help him off, after he had Skulk'd some Days in the *Royal-Oak*, and getting on Board a small Vessel, in a Creek near *Hastings* in *Sussex*, he thought himself pretty secure; being upon Deck, one of the Seamen Smok'd Tobacco in his Majestys Face, and staired upon him a little more than ordinary: Upon which Mr. *Mansel* the Master chid him severely. Why says the surly Tarr, may not I look upon that Gentleman, when a Cat may look upon a King?

An *English* Gentleman meeting a *Scotch* Pedlar upon the Road, ask'd him several Questions of *Scotland*, and other Matters, some relating to his Trade; was extremely pleas'd with the sharp and sensible Answers the Pedlar made. Which occasion'd him to say, That he had met with a great many shrew'd cunning Fellows of his Country-men abroad, up and down the World. Yes Sir, (says he) that may very well be; for there is none but Fools that stay at home.

A Forreigner being ask'd how he lik'd *Scotland*

And? Why truly, (says he) the Country is too good for those that live in it, and too bad for others to be at the charge to Conquer it.

An *English* Woman being Married to a *Scotch* Man, and not agreeing well together, but pretty frequently Battelling it, was very unealy, and often wished she had been Hang'd rather than to have been tyed to that Sower Dog of a *Scot*; and said, That a *Cobler*, if an *English* Man, would have made a happier Husband for her. Ay, says a Neighbour of hers, that may be, but I thought you had had a great Bargain, and a good Joynture with him. Yes, replys she, I had a *Scotch* Joynture: Pray Madam, says t'other, what is that? Why truly a *Scotch* Joynture (adds she) is a Ragged pair of Breeches, a Barril of *Scotch* Oatmeal, and a Tib of *Scotch* Eggs; and that is the Joynture I had with my Damn'd Dog of an Husband.

A Young Lady being at *Pancrass-Wells*, to drink the Mineral-Waters, and being in a pleasant Humour, took a Mug into her Hand to draw some of that purging Liquor for her self; Says she before a pretty Knorof Beaus, I'll try all these Cocks, and which runs best and longest I'll stick to, that alone shall be mine.

A Brisk Young Spark, taking his Mistress abroad in the merry Month of *May* into the Fields, he gave her three or four Green-Gowns, and

and ask'd her how she liked them? Very well replied she, they are very Comfortable to a Maid in my condition, troubled a little with the *Green-Sickness*. Will you have any more Madam, says he, seeing it pleases you so mightily, No thank ye Sir, adds she, I have enough, but you may have more if you please.

An *English* Gentleman taking into his Service (in pure Compassion) an *Irish* Man, who was forc'd to leave his Countrey upon his Conversion from the *Romish* (of which he was a Priest) to the *English* Church: Employed him in Errands, and sometimes let him follow him, to acquaint him with the Town; and having staid at a Coffee-House sometime, in expectation of a Man with whom he had Business, who not coming; he left his Servant there, to tell him that he could stay no longer, but was gone to such a Tavern: The Fellow immediately run after his Master, and ask'd him, What he should say to the Gentleman if he shou'd not come?

A Lusty Jolly Lady, being Courted by a little pretty Dapper Gentleman; refus'd to have him: And being asked her Reason, She answer'd, she could not abide such a Whipper-Snapper, for she should always fancy him, (when in her Arms) like a Sweet-bread upon a Breast of Veal.

Another much of the same Humour, scorn'd a Man of a small Stature; and said, Truly she wou'd not have him if he were worth a Million



*The Way to the World*  
million of Gold; for what would the People  
of her when Married? She being a Swan-  
ner, and he such a Creeping Creature, but  
that there was a Fly upon a Buttock of  
her.

A Knot of Gossipps being got together, one  
said she admir'd little Men: So don't I, says  
another, for I am of Opinion the bigger the  
better: Ay, says a Third, I should be of your  
Mind too, if Nature always held a Propor-  
tion.

A Gentleman being Sick to Extremity, and  
given over by his Physicians; was setting his  
House in order, and preparing himself to meet  
his Fate; his Friends came to take their last  
leave of him, and amongst them an old Com-  
panion of his (a Topping Debochee) who  
being very much troubled, that they must  
have so sad and sudden a parting; told his  
Dying Friend, he would go home and offer  
up his Prayers to Heaven for him: As he was  
going out of the Room he called him back:  
Pray Sir (says he) let it alone, for I would  
not for Five Hundred Pound, that Gold Al-  
mighty should know you and I were ever ac-  
quainted.

One was wont to say, that in Europe  
there were neither Schollars enough, Gentle-  
men nor Jews enough: to which one replied,  
That of all three, there were rather too  
great a plenty than scarcity; whereupon it  
was declared if there were Schollars enough,  
so

so many would not be double or treble Beneficed: If enough of *Gentlemen*, then so many Peasants would not be reckoned among the Gentry for *Gentlemen*: And if *Jews* enough, so many *Christians* would not profess *Utiury*.

The question being asked, Which were the greatest Wonders in the World: It was Answered, Womens and Lawers Tongues, because the one do always Lye, the other never lie still.

In one of *Queen Elizabeth's* Parliaments, a Bill came down from the Lords to the Commons, which being read three times, most of the House were for Passing it, notwithstanding there was too great Favor in it to Peers that should kill any Commoner: Up stands a plain honest Member, that serv'd for *Liverpoole* in *Lancashire*, Mr. *Speaker* (says he) I am for Passing that Bill too, provided there may be this Exception in the Act, That no Lord shall either kill me, my Wife *Joan*, Son *Tom*, or any of the good Town of *Liverpoole*, for which I serve. Which startled the House, and made them throw out that Bill.

A Mettled Young Spark having form'd a handsome design to Steal an Heiress, a great Fortune; engaged a couple of Gentlemen (his constant Companions) to assist him therein, which they frankly undertook, and chearfully perform'd; being come to the House where the Young Lady was, and the signal being given,

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your Father in the Ear, and tell him what  
Company you keep.

After *Topham*, Sergeant at Arms to the House  
Commons dyed, a new One being chosen,  
and appearing, was observed by the Members  
when he made his Reverences to the *Speaker's*  
Chair, to perform them very awkwardly, be-  
gan ill-shap'd, Splaw-legg'd Fellow: Upon  
which says one of the Members, I think we  
ought to Contribute to have our Sergeant sent  
to the Dancing-School; if you shou'd say  
otherwise, you may have a good Sergeant at  
Arms, but he will never be a good Sergeant  
Leggs.

A Gentleman sending for a Taylor in all  
hurry, to make him a Suit of Clothes; told  
him he must make him a very strong Suit,  
that would last him a greatwhile: A Gen-  
tleman of the Long-robe standing by, ad-  
vised him to a *Chancery* Suit, which he was sure  
would last him long enough.

A Noted Member of the House of Com-  
mons for Wit and Pleasantry, at a Debate  
upon the Election of the Prince and Princess  
*Orange*, to be King and Queen of *England*;  
said thus, Mr. *Speaker* I am absolutely for it,  
for King *James* was so kind to make my  
Daughter a Countess, and I'll make his Daugh-  
ter a Queen.

An Officer being sent down into the Coun-  
try, to search amongst the Disaffected for  
Arms, came to a plain Fellows House to see  
what

what store he had by him; and was to Truly he had but a few, about a Dozen, and they were in the Garret; up he whip'd, thinking to seize them all; but truly when he came to their, he found only half a Dozen Children. Those Sir, says the Master, are all the Art I have, but only my own.

One said (having drunk Small-beer) that it was very dead: It's very likely said another for it was very weak when I was last there.

One seeing a Lawyer riding on a Dun Horse; See (saith he) there is the Devil upon Dun.

A Gentleman being in Company, where were many Men and but one Woman only and she young and untouch'd; he unawares began to her a Health, To the best in Christendom; which she Pledged, and nam'd the Health at large, at which the Company smil'd, but not laugh'd, being unwilling and indeed better bred than to put the Lady to the blush; thus she soon perceived her innocent Errors.

The Famous Sergeant *Maynard*, when at the Bar Pleading his Clients Cause, was always accusom'd to carry it very high, and to tell the Judges on the Bench (sometimes none of the Sharpest) that that was Law he laid down, and he would abide by it, and carried the Cause: The very next Day he happen'd to be retain'd in another Cause, the exactly of the same Nature; but then was on the other side, and being very zealous for his Client



lient, he asserted himself to be in the right, and what he delivered to be Law. How now, brother *Maynard* (says the Judge,) was it Law yesterday, and is it Law to day: What say you Sir? My Lord (says he) it is Older and Wiser.

A mad Woer well fitted: One woing a Widdow, more to satisfie his Friends than to oblige his own inclination; told her that he had three Qualities, which she must be acquainted with before he Married her: The first was that when he went abroad, at his return home that he should be angry without a cause; the second that he must eat his Meat alone; and the third that he should lie with her but once a Month. If this she all (replied she) I care not one Straw; for as to the first, whereas you say that you shall be angry without a cause: Never fear Sir, I will take care to give you cause enough; and for the second, in eating your Meat alone; pray do that with all my Heart, good Sir, it must and shall be after I have well Dined; and for your lieing with me but once a Month, I am satisfied with it: for if you will not, another both will and shall; for in that time I shall have a Months mind to one if not more, therefore agree'd.

A Famed Man of the Town for Wit, having Stole and Married a certain Ladies Daugh- ter, with whom he ne're got a Groat; having her a verry pretty Boy, who used to go often

often to see his Grandmother, and sometimes stay with her two or three Months; the Ladies who visited the Old Gentlewoman, usually often praise the sweet Lad. Ah, says the Granny, 'tis I maintain this Boy, 'tis I keep him. Which being told the Father, he made this reply, She may very well keep my Boy when I keep her Girl (having had no Portion).

Upon a Late Act of Parliament, prohibiting the use of all Plate (Spoons and Forks excepted) in all Publick Houses, an Ale-House-keeper asked a Gentleman of the Last Robe (a dry Youth!) if she might not still use, notwithstanding the Statute, her Mug tipped with Silver. Yes (says he) you may for you are not within the Act, which forbids no Plate (except as before) shall be used; now you never use that tipping, for you never fill up to it.

A Famed Historiographer (or as a silly Fellow called him History-groper,) take what you like best being a Man of Excellent Parts of Universal Learning, a choice Critick, being brought into the Company of a certain Lord, renowned for Wit and Poetry, (a thing not very common!) to be admired for his Discourse; sat still a full Hour and spake not a Word, at last having been well plyed with Glasses of Red, he rose, went to the Chimney and spued Heartily: I am glad of that (said my Lord) let it go, for 'tis the first thing I have heard come out of his Mouth, since he came into his Company.

A certain *English* Bishop by Nation (and may by Nature) a *Scotchman*, having been informed that a Neighbour of his, (an indifferent Person for Fortune in the World) had said he was a false *Scot*, which made him send for him, and ask him pressingly if he said so: the Fellow absolutely denyed it. Well, what did you say? said the Bishop, My Lord, replies the Man, I only said you were a true *Scot*. Which bit him to the Heart, as much as if he had bid him read *Cleaveland's* Satyr upon his Country-men.

A Gentleman being arriv'd at *St. Germans*, lay (the Court of the late King *James* before he left *France*) went forthwith to wait on his Majesty, who demanded what News from *England*? None very good Sir, replied he: Well, but how stands my interest there, says the King? Why truly Sir, answers he, 'tis very considerable among the Ladies, for I believe all the Whores in *England* are for your Majesty. Ay, says King *James*, and if all the Rogues there too were for me, I should soon be at *Whiteball*.

A Woman being on her Death-Bed, her Husband very soberly asked her, who (if she then Dyed) he should Marry: (quoth she) Hey day! are you in haste to Marry then? Why! then Marry the Devil's Dam: No, my Dear, (replied he) I should commit incest, and be in danger of the *Spiritual Court*, for I have Matched with his Daughter already.

Th



The Late King *James*, when Duke of York often used to Hunt in *Epping-Forrest* and on that side, having kill'd a Buck, and being joyned by his Guards, an Old Blundering Fellow, a plain Country Man that used to Hunt with him, by Accident riding cross the Road run against his Highness, the Guards immediately cryed out Dam ye Sirrah, what's that for? could not you see the Duke? No, says the Clown, could not the Duke see me; I am sure his Eyes are better than mine, because I am Younger.

A Gentleman of *Essex*, of 'three or four Thousand a Year, of high Spirit and great Stomach; being invited to a match of Hunting by a Neighbour of less Fortune, but a very blunt honest Man; accepted the offer and promised to be at the Rendevouze: But (says he) you must provide a good Dish, for I shall be damn'd Hungry, and hardly hold out the Chasse: No, says the Old Curmudgeon not a bit, for I have Hanged many a Dog for quitting his Sport.

A Nobleman often using the aforesaid Recreation, used to be always near his Huntsman, who was an excellent old Servant, and one of whom he priz'd, and was often familiar with; but at coming to a Hedge or Ditch he wou'd call him, *Jack* do you leap first. Not I by G—d, my Lord, (replies he) do you go first and break your Neck if you please; value mine a little more.

A Witty Dialogue between a Cambridge-Scholar  
and a Young Gentlewoman.

Madam, I vow, you look wonderous Pret-  
ty; Nay, you are not only so, but also Handsome  
to a Miracle. Sir, I wish I could say as much  
of you, to retaliate your Compliment, but  
it being impossible, unless I believe my Self,  
or wrong my Judgment, I shall then pass it.  
Truly Madam, your Beauty shines like the  
Wings of a Raven, casting a Lustre from their  
very Night. And under that Favour Sir, it  
seems you are ventur'd abroad; for the Lu-  
stre of the Day, confines Owls to their Dor-  
mitory. Fair Lady, since *Fortune* has thrown  
me in your way, thus I kneel to beg a Kiss  
of your brown Hand, or tawny Face. Tru-  
ly Sir, how kind *Fortune* has been to you, I  
know not: Verily, she has dealt somewhat  
unmannerly with me, in throwing such a  
Block in my way to interrupt my Walk. A-  
las Madam! did I but know your Worth, it  
might for any thing the contrary, appears to me  
be worth prizing. Verily, Sir, tho' yours is  
well known, you have sure met with ill Na-  
tur'd Acquaintance; for it seems no Body  
thinks it worth valuing but your self. Ma-  
dam, your Twinkling Eyes behind your Black  
Vizard, look like Stars, peeping out on the  
Day time when the Sun is Eclipsed. You  
say right Sir! and it has Wonderously satis-  
fied

fied me: For in Truth Sir, I always took your Understanding to be so clouded, that had I not thus played at boo-peep with you, it seems I should never have found you Witty. Well, Madam, I see you keep up your wonted Humour, as Frolicksom as ever; Is it not time that your Wild Oats were scattered? Truly, it is Sir, and I could never have lighted upon a better opportunity to have done it in, seeing I have a Gander ready to pick them up. Madam I am so much your's, that whatever you command me, I shall do what I list. Sir, I am not ignorant that Fools are always obstinate.

*The Original, and Cause of some things, which hitberto Multitudes have been in the Dark  
And First of the Word Cockney, from whence it came, and is derized.*

A Country man Marrying a Citizen of London, and having by her an Handsome Boy when he was about 15 Years of Age, he thought it convenient to take him into the Country to visit his Relations; in the way of his Journey, the Boy perceiving a Colt running in a Field, and Neighing after a Mare when calling to his Father, who was a little before him, said, *Father! Father, what does this Creature which makes this Noise say?* What Child, (replied the Father) it Neighs after his Dam, which is in the Shade. Farther had not passed, but a Cock mounting on



the Pales, and clap'd his Wings, and cryed  
*Cock a doodle doo*: Upon which the Youngester  
said, *Hark Father, how the Cock Neighs*. Which  
Words being overheard by some Country-  
Bumpkins, has ever since entail'd, tho' cor-  
ruptly, the Epithet of *Cockney* upon every  
Born Citizen.

*The Original of throwing at Cocks on Shrove-  
Tuesday, is supposed as followeth.*

A Burly and Buxom Country Dame, be-  
ing under Husbanded, retired with a Friend in  
a Corner, and there they did what I blush  
to Name; yet you may guess: There a noi-  
sie Cock being perched on his Roost, espy-  
ing more then either he, or at least they,  
thought was becoming his Dame; claping his  
Wings, fell a Crowing, to Alarm the Con-  
tentd Husband, and the Neighbourhood, and  
disturb them at their pleasant Pastime; for  
neither the Man nor the Woman being over-  
burthen'd with Wit; yer, having Guilty Con-  
sciences, which need no Accusers, ingeniously  
interpreted the harmless Cock's Noise in these  
Words, viz: *My Master's a Cockold, I know,*  
*I know.* Ah! (said she) dost thou so, in troth  
since thou Dost, thou shalt tell no Tales; for  
I'll secure thee betimes: But the Cock fear-  
ing nothing, crys out aloud again. To which  
she replied,

*Dost thou say thy Master is in the Cuckolds Row,  
And so Day the Boys must at me throw,*

*The Way to be Witty.*

For telling what's done below:

Tho' it's real truth I bow;

Oh come, come see it now.

Whereupon at peep of day, to conceal any tokens of his being Kill'd at home, she delivered him into the Hands of a parcel of unlucky Boys, on the Day beforemention'd; who calling a Mob-Council, Doom'd him, for so abusing his kind Mistress, to be Cudgelled to Death, by throwing at him: Which ever since has been a Barbarous custom, not like to be laid aside. But the Young Cock perceiving his Father's Fate; even from the Comb to the Spurs trembling at it, grew wise at the harms of others; so that seeing the like a little after, even at his time to Crow, stood newter, briskly clapping his Wings, tho' not without some inward motions of fear, softly cried in a Poetical rapture,

*I'll neither meddle nor make, as to make Strife,*

*Tho' Dame changes Man, so oft as I do Wife:*

And by this, secured himself from wambling in a Portage-pot with Bacon, living to have as great Varieties as his good natur'd Dame; and to see a much fairer Brood of his, then she did of her Race, she proving both Slippery and Barren.

*The Original of Horn-Fair, and Cuckold's-Point in Kent.*

You must know, that in the Time of King  
John

*John*, when Religion could no more keep a Prince's Cod-piece button'd, than it can now infuse Charity into a Priest, however disguised. In the House of Rendezvous at Cuckolds-Point, where Troops of Merry Cuckolds meet, armed with Shovel, Spade, and Pickaxe, having their Heads Adorned with horned terrible Helmers, besides those in their Pockets; which in Modesty must be concealed: Now where the aforesaid House now stands, there (as the best Historians tells us) stood a Water-Mill; and Providence having blessed the Knave the Miller with a very Handsome Wife. King *John* going often that way, to Hunt upon Greenwich Heath, and thereabouts; happen'd to see the Miller's Wife, and became so Enamour'd with her Lovely looks; She being so Charming, that he could by no means restrain his Inclinations, but must needs have a Bout with her, and Cuckold the Miller. To effect which, the Cunning Baggage concerted; but as it's believed, so Cunning and Demurely managed the Matter, that her Husband should come home and catch them, even in the height of their Pastime: Which the Miller did accordingly; and seeming not to know that he was King, took him up in his Arms, and threatned to fling him into the Mill dam, and Grind his Head off; which so frightened his Majesty, that he told him, If he would spare his Life, he would give him all the Lands as far as he could see one way: Which the



Miller made him vow to perform, before he would quit his hold: So then set him down very civilly and contentedly, and went Whistling into his Mill, leaving the King to finish his business with his Wife, as a means to further ingage him to the performance of his Promise; the Miller waiting with a great deal of impatience, till his Wife had submitted her self like a good Subject to her dread Sovereign, and quietly surrender'd that Fort upon Discretion, which the King greatly desired, and wanted to be Master of. But as soon as the Fatigue was over, and the Royal Cuckold-maker had Gratified his Ambition, in adoring the Brows of the Meally Peasant: The Miller began to Solicite His Imperial Rival for the Generous Reward he had promised, to Facilitate the wearing of that Forked burthen, which otherwise would have sat very uneasy on his Forehead. The King assured him, that he would be as good as his Word; and bid him look out, and the Land as far as he could see one way on that side the River, should be his own for ever, paying only this Annual acknowledgement, That he and his Heirs after, should once a Year on that Day Twelve Month, (which proved the 18th of October,) walk to the furthest bounds of his Estate, with a pair of Bucks, or Goats Horns on his Head, attended with all his Family; or in neglect of which, the Land should be Forfeited, and no longer held or enjoyed. But

The Miller being Cunning enough to consent readily to the Bargain: The Cuckold-maker and the Cuckold being thus agreed, the Miller was about to turn and look up towards London; which the King observing, forbid him; telling, nay, assuring him, that he had but little laid that way in his Power to dispose of: So order'd him to look downwards, and as far as he could see that way, should be given him, and be his, and his Heirs upon the aforementioned condition. The Miller having washed his Eyes in Maid's Water, to make him sharp and clear Sighted; according to the King's order looked downwards, and saw as far as *Charlton-Hill*: All which Land between that and the *Point*, he afterwards enjoyed, only performing the aforesaid Ceremony; which being the original of that Custom. Some Lands thereabouts, are, as it's reported, held by that Tenor even to this Day.

*Compleat Courtship: Being the whole Art and Mystery of Wooing, Successfully and Happily to gain Maids and Widdows; by nicking the Critical Hour, according to the Rules here laid down.*

First, How to Court a Virgin, so as to obtain her. Love is common to all; and none but either sooner or later have felt, or will feel its force, as the Renounced *Virgil* saith,  
All Men on Earth, and Beast, both Wild & Tame,  
Sea-Monsters, gaudy Fowl, rush to this Flame.

But that in Men and Women, being the noblest Passion of this kind, I will endeavour to shew how it may be carryed on, and compassed with success, to the Mutual satisfaction of both, without so much Toil and Fatigue, as usually tends on Entangling Amours for want of a well-tim'd Management, and right Understanding, between the Parties whom Love and Destiny designs to make Happy, in the Mutual Enjoyment of each other, in a Reciprocal Union of the highest Felicity, the Sublunary World can afford them. Now the first thing to be done on the Man's part, after he has with Reason and good Consideration, fixed his Affection on the pleasing Object of his Desires; is to study how he may in a most Obliging manner make his address of Courtship; always taking due care that it may be well-tim'd, and not (instead of furthering his purpose) be ill resented, or occasion of offence to his Detriment. And in order to this, the best way is to get himself Recommended by some Friend, and more especially of one of the Female Sex, which is both Vertuous, and of known Credit; having some Intimacy with the Party to whom she Recommends: Or if this cannot be compassed, take an opportunity to send a Modest Obliging Letter by some trusty Hand, which is no Tongue-blab, least taking air to soon; the Scene be marr'd before the Curtain can be well drawn



## *The way to be Witty.*

drawn; and he be not repulsed with a slight indifferent Answer: For Women's Hearts with for that many times, which their Tongues at first do, and will often refuse, only to try the Constancy, and Affection of their Lovers; before they will declare themselves, so as to be tollerably understood: But be sure to beware at all times how your Ears are open to Detractors, or Slanderers; for many times they are set on by Rivals, to spread false Reports, on purpose to drive you from an Happiness you too much covet, and may dearly repent the loss of, when you find that their Drift was nothing but Malice or Self interest, as many have done, when the complainings of their over-much Credulity have come too late. So when you have obtained a favourable admittance, use that happy opportunity with all Caution and Circumspection: And take care that you be not too Talkative, or over Familiar at first, lest it beget in your Mistress a suspicion of the Ability of your Parts, and it be construed for an over-hasty Familiarity; which borders on Rudeness. But let your Expressions be Modest, and beware how you praise your self, or disparage others; for that will be looked on by a Discreet Woman as Conceitedness or Affectation. Be sure to let your first Visit be short, delivering your self as you see opportunity, in as few Words as may be, and them Significant, and to the purpose; in the mean while bowing with respect:

### *The Way to be Witty.*

and be careful to mark the motions of her Eyes, and to observe how her Blushes comes and goes, if Modesty has subjected her to Blushing; then take notice whether any Sighs escape. But if her Snowy Breasts may be seen, observe how they rise or gently fall; for these undoubtedly betray, and express the motions of the Mind, more than Words, which may be feigned, and not agreeable to the intention of the Heart. But above all, take your opportunity to keep fair with the Servants that are nearest to her, and especially with her Confident; if any such she have more inward in her Secrets than an other, not only by obliging Words, and humble respectful Carriage, but by Daubing them a little in the Fist; which will not fail to make you well spoken off, and get from them a greater light how she stands inclinable; than in a considerable time your self may be able to comprehend. At the first or second Visit, offer no Presents, lest they should be refused, or she think you take her to be so Mercenary, that her Affections are rather to be purchased that way, than won by kind and obliging Services: But let that alone, till you see how she inclines, and you grow more Familiarly intimate. If there be Parents and Relations in the way, and you are not doubtful that they will be an utter hinderance to your proceedings; by all means labour to ingratiate your self into their Favour, by a winning Behaviour, and dutiful respectful Carriage.

Carriage towards him; which if you genteelly do, then one great Point is gained to further you in your Amours. But have a special care of Boasting above your Abilities; for if you are but once taken tripping in such a manner, all you may say to excuse it, will hardly bring you off: Nay, besides it will create a Suspicion, that what you have else said, or solemnly protested, may be of the same piece, *viz.* Groundless, or Fabulous. So when you have advanced far upon her Favours; as to wait on her abroad sometimes, you must be very dilligent in your Attendance, by keeping your Eye upon her Motions, that so you may oblige her in her Inclinations; and offer your Hand and Service at every turn, having a Coach ready, as the occasion offers, handing her into, and out of it with a modish Ceremony and Complement, as you find her disposed to Ride or Walk, or call at a Relation's; or otherwise to buy any thing at the Exchange, or other Places; ever praising her Prudent Choice, and Judgment in the particulars she purchases: And when you see her backward to draw her Purse, then you may safely conclude, that she expects you shall make her a Present, in paying for it; you will lay a great Obligation upon her Thoughts. Sometimes she may, and will do it only to try your Generosity; laying her Command upon you, to put up your Money again. Be officious when you are in the Walks with her



*The Way to be Witty.*

and also dilligent gently to brush off any thing that may fall on her Cloaths, and if there be nothing there, shew your officiousness to brush off that nothing; which by some is mightily taken as a token of their Servants, readiness in all respects to oblige them. If she carelessly (as to you it may seem) drop her Fan, or Glove, or Hankerchief; look upon it as a favour done you: that so you may have the oppertunity of serving her in taking it up, then kiss it, Humbly presenting it, with your Hat under your Arm; bowing your Body at the delivery. Fail not to present her with the first and earliest Fruits, or Flowers; for Things cheap and common, are little acceptable to some Ladies: And when at any Place you Treat her, be not Niggardly; for tho' she seemingly chide your Profuseness, yet it will get you a greater esteem in her good likeing: For Women that value themselves, account more of Deeds, than of Words, measuring their Servants respect and kindness, more by their Purses, than their Amorous Expressions, that cost nothing. Be sure to mind where she drinks, and when you pledge or drink to her again; take the Glass as she he'd it, and place your Lips to it, just where she placed hers, which is a kind of a Kiss in conceit: and in your Treat, be sure that you choose before all other, that she has touched with her Lilly white Hands, using some well-timed quaint Expression, to make her

her more sensible of the meaning of it. If at any time she is Sad, or Afflicted, then appear Grieved and Dejected also, to Sympathize with her: And when she is Merry, put on a chearful Countenance: If at any time she is Indisposed visit her often, and appear very loath to part with her: Sigh and Shed some Tears if you can, in compassion for her Sufferings; put up Vows and Prayers for her speedy Recovery, and do every little Office, that she may see how Affectionately you Love her, and how desirous you are of her Welfare and Repose. In your Morning visits, thrust not rudely into her Retirements, lest finding her in an undecent Dress or Posture, you give offence; but wait with Obsequiousness till she be attired, and come forth of her own accord: And when by those, and some other little Artifices, you have wound your self into her Affections, then take a fitting opportunity, so that no interruption may happen by Ambiguous Words, to sound her Inclination: and by degrees come closer to the point, till you find that you may without offence demand an assurance of her Affections, protesting to be ever Loving and Respectful to her, in obeying all her Commands, and in continuing both Constant and Faithful to her, even to the last Gasps of Life. If you find any suitable Answers to your Desires, be careful to Husband well your good Fortune, and not upon too much Presumption, mar all by

by some foolish or ill-timed Action, or other. For as the old Proverb goes, There are many things which fall between the Cup and the Lip; therefore never be Confident you are too sure, before you are so: and to hasten to your Felicity, break off all delays, and having attained to the height of it, you will then have time enough to consider what you have done. If you meet with a denial, or a put off, or an excuse; believe none, by reason of the foregoing evident Tokens: but Modesty wait a more favourable Minute, when she may be in a more serious or better Humour, or her Mind may be better fixed, which before was wavering: And to bring this to pass, use double dilligence; First by Letters, in a Case, wherein your Felicity of your whole Life depends, Write thus:

Madam,

**I**N a Cause wherein I have most Will, I find least Power to unblossom the Secrets of my Heart, such force has Love to Captivate my faculties: Hence I rather choose this, than the other way of verbal delivery: For though, in either, I shall discover mine own Imperfections; yet in these Lines my guiltless Blushes will pass unseen. Hitherto I have only appear'd a Servant to your Affairs, and in that quality had continued, if the Excellency of your Personal Endowments had not (by some kind of Heavenly impulse) driven me on to more aspiring Thoughts: Thoughts which (with truth



with I speak it) were Engendered by the only  
 object of your Goodness, without any adulterate  
 mixture of Estate, which (however valued by  
 others) is not of weight sufficient to turn the Bal-  
 ance of my Scale: If not otherwise well laden with  
 pure and unbyassed Affection, which I profess to  
 owe but you; and to you all things, even the be-  
 ing of

Your most Faithful, and  
 Devoted Servant

W. S.

Or thus as follows:

Dear Madam,

I Have so long gaz'd on your Beautious Face,  
 and admired your other rare Perfections; till  
 my Heart is not mine own: For since the Hour  
 that Fortune made me happy in your Knowledge,  
 next after God, I neither have had Love, Care,  
 Hope, or Contentment but for you: so that I am  
 now become your Captive; seeing the Day yeilds up  
 all my Thoughts as a Tribute to your Memory,  
 and the Night which was made for the rest, ne-  
 ver removes the remembrance of you from my Heart;  
 which constrains me now to request the Favour of be-  
 ing admitted a closer Happiness without offending:  
 Which is, That you would vouchsafe to hear what  
 I have to say on my behalf; That you may be as-  
 sured and satisfied, how entirely I am yours in all  
 real Love, and true Affection; a Love so Tran-  
 scending, that which is common to Mankind: That  
 if that Happiness should be granted, which I Wish  
 for, and Desire: I am much in doubt how I shall  
 find

*find Words to express it: But however, hoping you will make the best Construction of my sincere meaning, and impatient expectation; as you have gain'd an Absolute Dominion of me, so I shall always yield you an intire Affection, and Remain Madam,*

*Your most Devoted Servant*  
W. S.

Thus you must let her see by your reiterated Services, how unwilling you are to lose an Happiness so near and dear: So in time using Patience and Sobriety, doubt not but you will find an alteration in her Temper, if the Match be agreeable, and no Potent Rival croud between: And if there do, you must contrive a fair Stratagem to remove the new invader of your Joys; but let it be rather Arch and Merry, than Mischievous and Malicious, for the latter will but expose the roughness of your Temper, and do you hurt. And thus much for Courting a Virgin, who is usually Shy, and Coy, if Virtuous; and so must not be only humour'd, but gently dealt with at first, and wound up to a compliance; and then be sure to take her in the Humour, at the Critical Minute.

*Secondly, Love's Art and Mystery in the Successful way of Wooing, and Gaining a Rich and Buxom Widdow. Supposing you have admittance by the ways and means before directed; you may at first come somewhat closer, and Court her with more assurance:*

*But*

But first be very industrious to find out her Humour; which if you can well hit and manage, that will prove of great advantage to you in the conduct of your future Behaviour; for many of them (not only like the harmless Hair, but the crafty Fox) have their Windings and Doublings, to leave you at a loss in the Chase, when you suppose you have the full Scent: For some will pretend to Religion and Devoutness; others are of a jolly Temper, and do pay their Devotion most to Treats, Fidler, or Play-Houses. Some again hanging between these two, having a kind of starched Reservedness, mingled with a little Haughtiness, and both natural and affected Pride: Now the better to discover whether these be a real habitual Temper, or only suddenly taken up: You must sometimes visit them by way of surprize; but not by an over rude Intrusion, which may in all probability give a sensible occasion of Offence: and then instead of a kind welcome, some Womenish weapon may; nay, without doubt will fly about your Ears: For such in their former Husband's Days, having been used to be humorr'd and obey'd; in an angry mood, upon a surprize, will make no difference between you and her meanest Servant in the House. Therefore what you do, let it be done with Modesty, tacking to the end of it always an excuse with a low Bow, if not a Scrape: and then if you find such in an other temper, you may  
safely



safely and assuredly conclude that it is not so much the Widdow's nature, as her affectedness; which she like a discreet and cunning Baggage can put on and off as the Whim takes her. So having gained thus much what you are desirous to know; you must then, as I have before hinted, suit your self to her Humour, and be as Conformable as lies in your Power, and by no means let her find you a Dissembler, but carry your Dish even, lest you spill your Pottage: and be not over-lavish in praising a Widdow, or her Actions above, and beyond a Virgins. For Widdows by a longer Experience for the most part, being more knowing than Maids, will soon smell out the Flattery. Therefore be diligent and careful in your Service and Respect, as to let her know and see how much you Value and Esteem her; and at every turn be ready to do any business for her, which she Commands or Desires in her Affairs: which if she finds you dextrous in, and that all things succeeds according to her expectation and advantage; it will give you a large step towards your Desires: For without doubt, she will be more inclinable to a Man that's thorow-paced in all business: And moreover, by that you give her a tryal of your Sagacity and Understanding; that if she Marries you, it will be a means to take the Trouble and Care off from her self, that she may have the greater leasure to serve God, and enjoy the necessary  
and

and wholesome Pleasures of this Life. Thus having by a kind and friendly Conversation, ingratiated your self into her good Opinion; when, then is your time to clap your Affections close to her, and carry on your Love-intreigue without much Intermission: For if after you begin to be in earnest, you grow cool and sulter; you are then infallible gone to the Pot, and must expect to be in a forlorn Condition: For when once she bends her Mind that way, she will hate drawing back, as Apostacy; and look on it as unfaithfulness, a trifling or delaying either out of a dislike of her Fortune, or a disrespect to her Beauty, or some insufficiency, or defect in your self; who made a fluttering like a Cock-Sparrow, yet coming to the push, unable to perform; and if this last conceit get but once into her Nodde, it will be difficult, if not altogether impossible to move it thence, and you never like to come within the Sheets with her: Therefore if you'll be advised by me, as soon as ever the Sun-shine of her Smiles begin to break forth, hasten to make your Hay, lest neglecting so fair an opportunity, she like a raging Bear; her Brows growing stormy with an angry disdain to be so neglected; and you never regain the like advantage, but to your grief of Heart, and sometimes utter Ruin, see the favourable opportunity put into the Hands of another, which will prudently take care to improve it. Perhaps, nay, probably she may, and will send you this, or the like Letter, viz.

*Sir,*

*Sir,*

I Have often heard, and now by Experience find that Men of all Creatures are the most Treacherous; and to compass their ends, will leave no ways untried, to draw simple Women into their Snares, and when they have arrived at the height of their aim, as soon (as you have basely done) fall off, and suffer those, they often swore that they had the highest Value and Esteem for in the World, to fall into Contempt and Disgrace: This Sir (after your so often per-juring your self) is my wretched Case. For I trusted your smooth deluding Tongue; thinking that your Words dropt Manna, when as it was only deadly Poyson: not only to destroy my Fame, in keeping me so long Company, and sinking me under the intolerable weight of Calumny, but almost my Life also: whose Conversation towards me has been a Scene of Cruel Treachery; therefore without hope, I leave it to that Power who can only turn your Heart, or severely punish your Rebellious obstinacy: and with Subscription, as not knowing what to stile my self towards you, I conclude, and wait the event, and bid you adieu in these Disticks:

Thus we may see how ill-tim'd Folly loses,  
 He now wou'd Wed, but wisely she refuses;

In



In Love be prudent then, close whilst thou may,  
Least when you would, the Fair One says you  
(nay.

Thus you may, and will be served with  
Disdain; so if you have got so much Ground  
as is before-mention'd, and can advance a  
step further, as to gain the Widdow's favour  
of coming to her Bed-side, and there to sit  
and Chat with her, then you have gained  
Eleven Points in Law: If you 'be wise to im-  
prove the favourable opportunity to Toy with  
her; let it not be according to the Vulgar  
opinion, lest she take you for a Person of loose  
Behaviour; and so conclude, that if she Mar-  
ries you, she shall not be able with all her  
Charms, and tempting Allurements, to keep  
you intirely to her self, which will prove very  
dangerous: Therefore in all respects, let your  
Deportment be such, as may speak you a Man  
of Ability and Courage, fitting to serve a  
Woman of her Complexion in a pleasing way;  
when time shall make it lawful: Thus striking  
whilst the Irons hot, you may chance to  
beat out your Fortune at an Heat; but be so  
just to your self before Marriage, as to see,  
and know if she has any Children, which has  
Thieved away all her Estate: She having made  
all over in trust to them, then she will, and  
indeed has reason to Laugh in her Sleeve, that  
she has noosed an over Credulous Woodcok;  
and in a Poetical Rapture, say,

Thus

*Thus by a Widdow, was a Fop out-mitted,  
Great pitty 'tis, such Sparks ar'n't all so fitte  
Let those that yet have scap'd, then have a care  
How they do nibble at Second hand-ware.*

So thus Sir, with Caution and Cunning  
you may successfully conclude your Amour  
either for the obtaining a Virgin or Widdow  
to be happy with, either by the bringing up  
Children, or the keeping of your House,  
the comforting of your Life: For he that  
Marries for Money, Beauty, or a Fair Tongue  
may be disappointed in his Expectations;

*The Fairest Face, and Smoothest with leave,  
May Sober and Discreet Men so deceive,  
Like the Land Cyrens, listening to their No  
Will Shipwrack, and devour tho' they float:  
Who makes the Object of his Fancy Gold;  
Grows cold in Fancy when the Money's told:  
Or he who thinks to love, and live a Lord,  
Is Honour's fawn, who knows how long abroad  
Ambition is his Saint, to which he Prays,  
It swells his Mind, which uncontrouled, Plays  
But Hark a little, could he reach his Aim,  
Riches, Honour, Power, Revenge, and Fame  
Will these suffice? no he wou'd be mounting higher  
That push'd the Mighty Angel to conspire;*

Nay, his defeat he boasts, tho' proudly fell,  
So may they fare that with Ambition swell.

J E S T S.

There was an Old Woman which lived  
at Westminster, which one Evening being  
very cold, sitting by the Fire, plucked up her  
Coats to her Knees; which a Foolish young  
Cat sitting under her, see the Old Woman's  
Murkin very black, which the fond Cat sup-  
posing to be a large Mouse or Rat, flew fierce-  
ly at it, biteing and scratching the Old Wo-  
man in such in lamentable manner, made the  
Old Trot burst out into this Poetick Rap-  
tures;

*Plucking my Coats up higher and higher,  
A Pox on the Cat,  
Which catch me by the Trot  
As I sat warming me by the Cole-Fire.*

A Cantabrigian coming up to London, went  
to see Fashions into an House of Iniquity,  
which had the *Flower de Luce* for its Sign,  
where he got for his kind welcome and en-  
tertainment a swinging Clap: Whereupon  
he Write these Verses, and pasted them over  
the Door.

*All you that chance hitther to come,  
Mark well before you go in,  
For Frenchman's Arms are Signs without,  
And Frenchman's Harms within.*



A Country Inn-keeper, bespoke an Arch Country Painter, to Paint him the Sign of a *Bear*; so the Painter asked him, If he would have a *Bear* with or without a Chain? quoth he, Without a Chain is cheapest; they agreeing of the Price, which was low: The Painter Painted it only with Size Colours; so that in a few wet Days, the *Bear* was washed away: at which the Covetous Inn-keeper being intriged, sent for the Painter, which coming to the others railing, jocosely replied, Sweet Sir, if you had but given me as much more Money, then I would have Drawn the *Bear* with a Chain, which then should not have got away: For can you, or any wise Man think, or imagine that any *Bear* would tarry without a Chain.

A *Quaker* being in Bed with his Wife in the Night, which was very cold, she pulled him, saying, *Awake Abenezar awake*: Which rousing up, replied, What sayest thou, the Wife of my Bosom? *Arise quickly*, (said she) *arise, and go into the next Room, and not far from that place which pays Tribute to Cæsar, there stands a Wicker Chair, whereon hangeth my Red Peticoat; take from thence two Farthings, and go to our Friend Theophilus the Tallow-Chandler, and buy therewith two Candles, lighting one, spring in hastily, for I fear our young Son Aminiadab has foully Beshit and Bepist himself.*

The same meeting an Holy Sister, told her, That her Daughter *Rebeckah* was fallen  
(not

not from the Truth) to pieces by Benjamin.  
Oh Sister, (reply'd the other) its natural for  
such Kittens or Lambs of God when they  
meet, to play together.

A Cantabrigian being one day deeply en-  
gaged in discourse with a witty Gentle-  
woman which was pleased to condemn the  
weakness of her Sex. Nay, Madam, (replied  
the Schollar) not so, for if I mistake not, its  
easie to prove your Sex stronger than ours,  
for Sampson being the strongest, carried only  
the Gates of the City on his Shoulders; and  
now adays every Stripling-Female carries a  
Tower on her Forehead. To which she  
briefly replied, Surely Sir, you have a capa-  
cious and very strong Head, that is able to  
carry up and down so many Windmills in it,  
and also such an innumerable sight of Mag-  
gots.

Some Neighbours that dwelt in a Row, in  
Cambridge, on one side of the Street, were to  
be merry with their Wives; said one, They  
of the University say that we are all Cuc-  
kolds who live a this side but one; where-  
upon his good natured Wife was in her Dumps.  
How now Sweet-Heart, (said he) why so  
sad? I am not, (replied she) but am now  
studying who that one it should be of us Wo-  
men that has not Cuckolded her Husband.

An Old Man having Married a Young  
Maid (as was supposed) seemed very joyful;  
but the Bride was sad: one of the Guests ob-  
serving

serving it, bid her be merry, telling her that an Old Horse would hold out a Journey as well or better than a Young One. To which she replied sighing, and stroaking down her Belly, Alas, Sir, but not in deep Ways, or in this Road, which was known by the Cantabrigians to be common and well beat.

A Journey-man Baker watch'd his opportunity, and stole a Neighbours Goose; which he perceiving, cryed out as the Baker was running away, Oh! Baker, Baker. I will, I will (said the other.) But a little after, he was served with a Warrant: He told the Justice that his Neighbour bid him Bake her, which he honestly did; but the other not coming to eat her when ready, he honestly invited some others to eat her.

A Taylor having often complained among the Cantabrigians in his Wife's hearing, that she brought him nothing: Which she being so often upbraided with, smartly replied thus, You Lousie Thieving Rogue, and Cuckold, you lye, for I have brought you a Child every Year with little or none of your help, or assistance.

A Gentleman that was a great Tavern-hunter, asked his Friend to go with him to drink a Glas. The other refused, telling him that his Face was full of Pimples, and so red enough already, and drinking Wine would make it worse. A Pox on that Face, (quoth the other) that makes the Body fare the



the worse for it. The same Gentleman protested that when he dyed he would leave Fifty Pounds to be drank in Wine in manner and form following, *viz.* Ten Pounds at the *Wonder* in *Idgate-street*, to be drunk only by honest Men. Ten Pounds at the *Castle* by Military Men. Ten at the *Naggs-head* and *Mitre*, by Clergy-men: And Ten at the *Horn-Tavern*, by Citizens: And Ten at the *Devils-Tavern* by Lawyers and Physitians, &c.

A Carter chanced to overturn his Cart far from any assistance, yet being near the Road from *Cambridge*; so the poor Fellow was forced to stand by till he could find some Body coming that way to beg their help. At last a *Parson* with others appeared, and the *Cantabrigian* thinking to put a Joke on the poor Carter, said, How now Carter, what! I see that thou hast killed the Devil. I faith Master, (quoth he) and I have waited some Hours for a *Parson* to bury him: and now sweet Sir, you are come very seasonably, pray do your duty; and be so kind afterwards either to lend me your Cloth-Gown to mourn for him, or else mourn your self, since you have the most reason for it.

A Gentleman pretending to have a great Inclination and desire to Marry, asked advice of a Friend concerning so weighty a matter, which immediately sent him these Poetical Lines, but whether designedly to divert him from Marriage, or to show his own *Alamode* aversion, as follows.

*The way to be witty.*

Out of stark Love, and errant Devotion,  
Of Marriage I'll give you this gallopping notion,  
'Tis Bane of all Business, the end of all Pleasure,  
Consumption of Youth, Will, Virtue, and Treasure:  
'Tis th' Rack of our Thoughts, Night-Mare of our  
(Sleep,

That calls us to work before the Day peep,  
Commands us to make Brick without Stubble, or  
(Straw;

For a C— hath no Sense, nor Conscience, nor Law,  
If you be for Flesh, take the way that is noble,  
In a Generous Wench there's nothing of trouble,  
You come on, and off, say, do what you please,  
For the worst you can fear is but a Disease:  
Diseases you know may hope for a Cure,  
But the pain of Marriage who can it endure?

A Soldier, who had lost one Eye in the Wars, married a young and supposed Maid: but finding it otherwise, he seriously asked her, Why she had so served him? To which she replied, Would you have me intire to you, when you come defective to me? Pray how lost ye your Eyes? He said, By my Foes in Mars's Wars. Oh then (quoth she) and I lost my Maidenhead by a Friend in Dame Venus's Wars. So according to the Poet,

*Post visum risum, post risum venit inusum,  
Post usum tactum, post tactum venit inactum,  
Post actum factum, post factum pœnitet actum.*

Englified

Englised thus,

We see, we laugh, and then to feeling come,  
Then Action clubs unto Love's Martyrdom,  
And when with Bloodshed we the Fort have

(won,

With hanging Heads we wish we'd ne'er  
(begun.

*Probatum est.*

Some Ladies viewing the Statue of Brass  
standing on a Pedestal at the end of St. James's  
Park, two Sparkish Gentlemen made up to  
them, the one saying, I'll lay a Wager that  
I put them to the Blush. Done (quoth the  
other.) So taking a view also, he said to one  
of them; Madam! this is a curious Piece, were  
all things proportionable. Why, (said she)  
what do you fancy's amiss? Truly (replied  
the Spark briskly, pointing the same time at  
his) what do you call it, is too little in pro-  
portion to his Body. Ah, Sir, (replied she  
very pertly) I fear yours would be much less,  
had you stood in the Cold so long as he has  
done. Upon which the other laughing out-  
right, cryed, Ah Tom, you have lost your  
Wager, if it were for a Thousand Pound.  
Which the other confessed, being out-witted,  
which caused the other to make these Verses.

*Thus by a Woman, was a Fop out witted,  
Tis pitty all such are not always fited.*



*The Drunkards Mistake; with Advice to Drunken Companions in a Drolling Poem.*

Two drunken Fellows in a dark Night reeling home Arm in Arm, unmindful of their Way, tumbles into a deep and dirty Ditch, supposing it to be the Ale-house Cellar: One called to the other, groping about, demand- ed where he was? O Tom, (quoth he) I am searching for the Taps to let out all the Beer. Gra mercy Will, (said the other) that's bravely done; and I for my part in Mischief, am clam- bring up (as indeed he was raking the dirty Banks with his Fists) to pull down the Sign; we'll teach the Devil's Dray-men to leave open their Cellar-Doors at this time of Night to break honest mens Necks. But for all their haste they were forced to stay in that enchan- ted place, in that dirty pickle, till Morning; which the Watch then took, and had them before a Justice, which sent them to Prison till sober: and afterwards coming to them- selves, they seeing their Error, composed these following Verses, and left them as a Legacy, or Memento to all honest Drunken Curs.

*All you that have heard how Blind lead the Blind,  
Till both fell in a Ditch, be you so kind  
Upto your selves when Potting time commences,  
Drink soberly, and spare to drain your Senses.  
For Man deprived of Reason, 'tis the least  
That can be said of him, he's chang'd to Beast.*

Of't in the Dirt be wallows like a Swine,  
Ecce Signum in us, that's see the Sign,  
See us besmear'd all o'er, if't won't tempt ye,  
To leave your swilling, see our Rockets empty,  
In which the Devil may fearless dance about,  
For not a Cross there's left to keep him out.  
And more may yet be of your Folly said,  
Our Wives they scold, our Children cry for Bread,  
And all we get by't is an aching Head.  
Thus did the Liquor these Great Wonders do,  
To drain our Purses, and our Senses too.  
Our Hostess made us dearly for it pay,  
By nicking, frothing, filling Pots half way,  
And then, My Service to ye, she often said,  
With double Scores, for which we dearly paid.

*A Pleasant Story of an Ingenious Lady.*

A Fair Dame that had been bred at Hackney-School, under the reputation of a great Fortune; which indeed in some cases she might have pretended to, had not her Parents Misfortunes embittered her Fortunes; insomuch that the good Learning and pretty Face were the best part of her Portion: being indeed then almost all they had to leave her; but a Gentleman of an Estate, tho' both hard favoured, and clownish, espouses her: and after Marriage both being seemingly devout, and constant Church-folks; she never missing the Six a Clock Prayers, or any other occasion that called to Church: her Seat there fronted the Parson, and Clerk's Desks, so that

their Eyes could not have a fairer Mark before them than that Female Auditor. Now it to tell out that both the *Parson* and *Clark* being Young, and both Batchelors, unfortunately divided their Devotions, viz. a little to Heaven, and a little to the Fair Opposite, insomuch as was observed, that they could no forbear casting a Sheeps Eye upon that White Lamb of their Flock: First, the kind Man of God, among his daily Visits, had the opportunity of entertaining the Mistress of the Family at hours when the Husband's business called him abroad: and verily how loudly so ever he preached against the World, and the Devil, he was not altogether so vehemently zealous against the Flesh; for not only to propogate Religion in the Family, he took occasion one day to inculcate a little Love, to tell his dear Profelite and Disciple in plain Heathen, tho' Dunstable Language, That he had a carnal as well as spiritual Affection for her. Which at first from a Man of his Coat, a little startled her; and seemed very much concerned that she should stir such an irregular motion in a person of his Character and Function: yet for all, as a Compassionate, she lent her Ear to her Amorous Canonical humble Servant, or well-wisher. Now the good Man in Black having, as he thought, gained the Out-works, resolved to muster his whole strength for the last Attack, that then remained only unconquered to carry the Fort: and thereupon taking



king the critical Minute, the next Morning he told her, That he had consulted his Pillow, and came fortified with unanswerable Reasons, which were impossible for her to refute; and to be plain with her, he told her, that he had been a long time sensible of hers, and her Husband's cloud in the World; and as the dissipating that, was the greatest Blessing he could study or obtain, both to herself and her Husband: he requested the concession of her Embraces upon no other terms than Twenty fair broad pieces of Gold, which he was ready to lay down for the purchase; which sum he hoped might somewhat allay the present Frowns of Fortune. So that the mollified Fair Dame seemed a little pliant at this new doctrine of Innocent Concupiscence, and very chearfully desired him to come again in the Evening; at which time she would give him an Answer, possibly not to his dissatisfaction. With which gentle Reply he took his leave, not a little wrapt up with the contemplation of his approaching Felicity, which he looked upon as securely as his own: And no sooner was the Doctor gone, but in comes the Clark; for *Like Master, like Man*, as the Proverb goes: he forsooth came visiting just upon such an other Amorous design, having (as well as his Master) been not a little smitten, came open and bold-faced and mouthed: which you must think at first not a little surprized the young Dame, nevertheless being

not silenced at his confidence; but cunningly confessed that she had had a long private kindness for him, and therefore did not blush so much as otherwise she should, for giving her self up at so easie conquest; nevertheless telling him she had heard some learned Doctors of the Church say, That a prudent Wife upon so considerable sum as to preserve her, her Husband's and Family well-being has and may be dispensed with in such a case. The generous *Amen-Man* being more ravished with that sweet Tune, than any which ever belonged to *Sternhold* and *Hopkins* Psalms; and being both able and generous, frankly promised to give her Ten Pounds for the Bargain, and to come even at the time set for his Master: Upon which he took his leave with no little satisfaction at so pleasing a Triumph; and the cunning Young Baggage was as well pleased to think how she would Nouse and Gull the Master and Man. But no sooner was he gone, but the honest Miller comes with a Grist, hoping to lay his Stones, and grind in the fair Dame's Mill, his Clack going very fast; by it he made her a great many Vows and Protestations of Love and Affection: The Lady being resolved to be a generous kind Mistress to all her passionate Servants, soon came to the yielding Point; only the old scruple of Conscience, according to the aforesaid Doctor's opinion, must be first satisfied, viz. with the sweet sum of ten pounds,

pounds, which was to be the purchase of sweet Concession.

Now the Day being come that these three Persons were to enjoy, as they thought, their sweet Mistress; the laborious and clownish, but ignorant Husband, as customary, going forth early the day appointed, the dear and cunning Dame desired him by no means to take his Dinner with him as usual; but to come home just at such an Hour to an hot Dinner, which she would provide him; not that she would give him his Bill of Fare beforehand; but something she would provide for him, which should be no ungrateful entertainment. The harmless Man, who enquired no farther, promised to return accordingly, but withal, he must be punctual to the Minute, of half an hour past Eleven, neither sooner nor later. Now according to assignation, the Parson makes his entry just half an Hour past Ten, being the very time appointed, and all things being ordered for his reception, he was immediately conveyed to her Bed-Chamber, where he was desired to unharness for Bartel; for in Love's combat, as she made him believe, she was wont, and had vowed to fight always Naked; her dear Husband being accustomed to do the same: So forthwith the Parson strips off his Mourning Weeds, and Shirt also, and into Bed he jumps; she having promised him only to make all safe below, and then to come to his Embraces: but before



fore she went down, she secured all his Clothes and the Reward in a Chest under a Lock; and going down one, *viz.* the Clark knocks, which made her return to tell him, That she thought it was her Husband; so desired him to hide himself behind the loose Hangings, and whatsoever he heard or saw, for fear of the worst, not to stir or speak one word, &c. So down she went, and let in the Clark, which having conducted up to the Bed, dis-mantles him stark Naked too under the same Pretensions; and locks up also the promised Reward, with all his Clothes in the same Chest: which having no sooner done, but a new Alarm was beat at the Door by the Miller; which put the second Gallant in the same consternation as his Master was in, from the fear of that dreadful disturber of their pleasures call'd an Husband; whilst to secure all, she obliged him under the same charge of Silence, to skulk behind the Hangings, whilst she descends to let in, and bring up the third Rival; and treats him just as she had done his Brother Starlings; but in the intrim, the real Husband returning home, knocks; which she like a dutiful Wife went, and let in; whose Contemplation lay wholly towards the Kitchen, and Cupboard, more than the Bed-Chamber: his good Wife having promised him that day a good hot Dinner; and he seeing no preparation towards it, there being then not so much as a Fire in the Chimney, which  
made

made him angry; but the good Woman to appease him, saith, That before Dinner she had something to shew him; which perhaps might please him better than the best of Meats, telling him, that she having a long time considered of their poor Circumstances, and calling to mind that when at the Boarding-School, she advanced then to such a perfection in making Wax-Work Images; and that she might not loose the Art or Skill, seeing Imagery is now *Alamode*, and also grown very profitable, to try her Hand to get a better livelihood; she that Morning (as she told him) had made two or three Samples of them, intending to surprize him with the sight of such a Curiosity; and not doubting but to raise a comfortable (if not a plentiful) Subsistence from her Art in that kind. Now whilst she was talking thus to him below, the three hot Sparks being a little cooled, found themselves in a woful Pickle, upon the unexpected surprize of an Husband below: and indeed then they were no Strangers to one another or to the business that brought them thither, for they had just light enough, from an old Window behind the Hangings, to cast a very rueful Aspect upon each other, in that doleful and unseemly pickle, being all the true Pictures of *Cupid*. So at last up Stairs she takes him, with his Knife in his Hand, which he had ready drawn for his Victuals; and drawing back the Hangings, she shewed him the promised

mis'd Rarities; which the Husband no sooner  
 saw, fell into a Rapture, and applauded her  
 Ingenuity to the very Skies, swearing by his  
 Maker, that they were all Master pieces; ha-  
 ving never before seen any thing more done  
 to the Life: Nay, I protest, (said he) they  
 are exact Copies from the Original; for this  
 Wife (pointing to it with his Wife) is so  
 like our *Parson*, and the other two our *Clark*  
 and *Miller*; all so Naturally done, even to  
 the Life, that never any thing which I saw  
 in *Bartholomew-Fair* yet ever equalled them:  
 for methinks their Eyes move and sparkle  
 more briskly than they in the Fair; but yet  
 Wife I must tell thee, that in my weak judg-  
 ment, there is one fault in every one of them,  
 which I with this Knife can easily mend.  
 For saith he, See the *Parson's* Hanger, being  
 much longer than mine, wants that superna-  
 tural Excrecency to be cut off, or Circumcised:  
 and the *Clark's* Bell-Ropes, or Strings, hang-  
 ing to low, and consequently being so long,  
 must needs hinder the Peal: and the *Miller's*  
 Stones, laying too high, on the louder must be  
 let, or laid down, or else they will never  
 grind well. To which the tender-hearted,  
 good Woman replied, and confessed, that  
 these being Eye-Sores to some, are its con-  
 fessed, reckoned as faults by one Sense, viz, the  
 Sight. But dear Husband, appeal but to the  
 rest of the Senses, and you'll find that, that  
 will be over-ruled. Pray, Wife, hold thy  
 Prittle-



Prittle-prattle, for with this Knife I am fully resolved to try my skill, that I may partake both of the Praise and Profit. To which the fair Artist readily consented: But approaching with the Knife for the operation, at the apprehension of the terrible cold Iron, the Three Images with a sort of very nimble Clock-work in their Breeches, all trundled down Stairs as if the Devil drove 'em; the Parson leading the Van; the others following out of a particular Christian antipathy to the Jewish and Heathenish Barbarity of Circumcision and Castration, where they had the happiness of being a Town and Country-talk, and the Image-maker's Profit and Laughter.

*A Story of Purgatory.*

The Pope gave a Priest a Silver Bason, and endued it with this Vertue, that whosoever dropped a Crown into it, his Friends Soul should instantly upon the sound of it be delivered out of Purgatory. Now in the Town where the Priest lived, dwelt a mad debauched Fellow, whose Uncle had left him a good Estate; to him the Priest went, and offered for a Crown to free his Uncles Soul from Purgatory. The Young-man said, It was a reasonable Proposition: Whereupon he took out a Crown, and dropt it into the Bason. Then he asked the Priest, if he thought that his Uncles Soul was out of Purgatory? It is said the Priest, which he had no sooner said, but

but the Young Man whips up the Money again. Of which the Priest was displeased, and said, that if kept it, his Uncles Soul would return again to *Purgatory*. Nay, replied the Young Man, there is no fear of that, for if he was but as obstinate an old Knave when now dead, as he was when living, if he be but once out as you say he is, all the Devils in Hell cannot get him in again.

A Butcher's Wife in *Paris* have been suspected by her Husband to have Cuckolded him, to free him in part of that Jealousie, seemed very devout, and frequently went to confession: One day being with her Confessor, who amongst many Questions, asked her whether sometimes she had not a mind to the Flesh? Indeed (said she) I love Flesh so well, that my Mouth waters whenever I see a good Bit, tho' in Lent. But I hope you eat it not (said he.) Not for a World (replied she to him.) I but (quoth the Priest) that is not the Flesh I mean; for tell me, had you any carnal Copulation with any besides your Husband? No, said she. I but in plainer terms, (said he) did you never desire to lie with another Man? Well, I must ingeniously confess (quoth she) that once I had a great Inclination to an Apothecaries Man our next Neighbour; but never did any thing with him: for in truth, the Fool either wou'd or could not understand my meaning, tho' it was as plain as a Pikes-staff. Ah, Sister! (said the

the Confessor) you know that the Will is as good as the Deed: however, once I'll absolve you. Which with a low Curtsie she thanked, assuring that she was willing to send him a Quarter of Mutton ready Roasted for Supper. Upon which he invited several Friends to Sup with him, which came accordingly: But the Mutton not coming, the Priest sent a Messenger for it: Which the Woman told that it was sent already. To which the Priest sent another to assure her, that there was no such thing. Then the Woman bids him tell his Master, that she had a Good Will to send it, but her Husband would not let her: and since he had assured her that the Will must be taken for the Deed, she desired to be excused, hoping according to his own Doctrine, that he would be as well content without the Mutton, since she Willed it, as if he'd received it.

There was a Pope, who being dead, it is said that he came to Heaven's Gate, and knocking there, St. Peter being within, asked who was there? Which was Answered, A Brother, the last Pope now lately deceased. To which St. Peter replies, Pray since thou pretends to have the Keys, why dost thou now knock? To which the Pope replies, That formerly his Predecessors had the Keys, but since the Wards are altered: he cannot unlock the Gate without his assistance.



A Gentleman inviting several of his Friends to Supper; a couple of Rabbits being under his Hand (as he was Carving them up) his Wife called to him, Husband, prethee give me a flap of the Coney. At which the good man being abashed, replied, How now Wife! What before all this Company?

A Merry and Witty *Cambridge*-Schollar going from *London* to *Colchester* in a very cold wet slabby Day; coming to an Inn there, having given the Ostler his Horse, immediately went into the Kitchen to warm himself; but an unmannerly company of Towns-men surrounding the good Fire, so that the Parson could not come near; whereupon he calls to the Ostler to fetch a peck of Oysters, and give them to his Horse. Will your Horse eat them? replied the Ostler. Pray try, said the other. The Towns-men hearing this, left the Fire to see the Wonder, and in the interim the Parson making choice of the best Seat, fixed himself in the great Chair by the Fire. The Ostler having made tryal, brought the Oysters to the Gentleman, saying, That the Horse would not touch them. Well, (quoth the Parson) if he will not, pray bring them to me, and I'll see if I can. So the Men perceiving the plot, leering one upon the other, laughed; but were ashamed to tarry there any longer.

A poor Country-fellow praying devoutly before an old Image of St. Lop, the Image being

being rotten, unexpectedly fell down upon the poor Man, and grievously bruised him: and in the interim the cheating Priest's sets up a new Image in the others room: So the Country-man being recovered of his Bruises, came to the same Church, and was observed at a great distance to kneel before the same Image: and being asked the reason of his keeping such a great distance? replied, That tho' that which was the Son, smiled upon him, but the Father played him such a prank lately, that fearing the Son hath some of the unhappy Qualities of the Father, he'll not come near him, &c.

A Peasant having been with his Confessor, told him that he had eaten Eggs that Lent, so was reprov'd for it: Forasmuch as he told him that Eggs made Chickens, Chickens Cocks, and Cocks Capons. A little while after, the same Confessor sent to him for some Eggs, to set under an Hen, which he boyling very hard sent them, so the Confessor finding in a Months time no Production, breaks one, nay, all of them, and found them all hard boyled, which so netled him, that without any delay he went to the Peasant, to know the reason of that abuse: Which immediately gave him this Answer, saying, Good Father, you are not ignorant that you told me but last Lent, when I confessed to you that I had eaten Eggs, that they (for indeed mine were boyled as well as these) made Cocks, and so Chickens and Capons: Now, if these

these I eat would make such, could any one think or imagine but those which I sent to you, would not have done the same.

It being left to the choice of a Gentlewoman of two Suiters, which she would chuse a tall Man, or a short One: To which she pausing a little, answer'd, I would in good sooth have a lusty tall Man, provided all things were proportionable.

A Gentleman not many Years ago, coming by a Goldsmith's Shop, saw there a delicate Lovely Woman, whom (as she was) the Mistress; and that he might delight his Eyes with a less suspected freedom, he went into the Shop, desiring to see some Jewels, Rings, and Lockets &c. So having satisfied his Fancy for the present, by inspecting that Charming Heart-Flaming Countenance; he bought only a Trifle, and went away, but with a Resolution speedily to return: coming several times to the Shop after this manner, at length became well acquainted both with the Man and his Wife. Having got this Familiarity, he one Day came to the Shop, and shewed them a fine Jewel, desiring the loan of Fifty Pounds upon it for a Month, which was soon granted: In some time after, he watching when the Gentleman went abroad, went to the House, and spared neither for Cost nor Courtship, to win the Gentlewoman to comply with his Desires: So having well warm'd her with Wine, he attempted



the Violation of her Chastity, by all the Wiles and Stratagems he could devise; but seeing none would take, he offered her the Fifty Pounds ( he had received of her Husband ) for one single Amorous Encounter: Which prof-fer like Jove's Golden Shower on Danaë, wrought its desired effect. But having Con-summated what he so passionately desir'd; in cool Blood, he began to consider what a rash Act he had done. The Lady on the other side, having got so Rich a Booty, with a deal of sweet Pleasures to boot; fearing least this se-rious Consultation with himself, might pro-duce Mischief: She desired him to be gone, fearing least her Husband should come, who might by seeing him there, justly suspect some foul Play in his absence. No, no, replied the Gentleman, ( having just devised a Plot ) let him come; I have just thought of a way which will assuredly prevent all suspicion in him: So having no sooner said the Words, but the Husband came up Stairs; and at his approach, the Gentleman step'd to him, saying, Sir, I thank you for your late Kindest, in lending me Fifty Pounds; I having received Moneys sooner than I expected, therefore brought it, and have but just now pay'd it to your Wife, with use for the Loan, and was coming down with her to the Shop to receive the Jewel: The Goldsmith asking his Wife if she had received such a Sum of him. Having it then about her, durst not deny it; whereupon the Jewel was restor'd, but who was think ye the Gammer ?

A Gentleman being a great distance from his own House, and having very urgent Reasons for his speedy return rid post: So having Supped, and being in Bed with his Wife, he said, Dearest, pray excuse me to Night, that I pay not that Tribute due to our Loves, for I am so weary that I am not capable of doing any thing but Sleep: You must think that these Words were none of the most pleasant to such a young sanguine Gentlewoman, after such a long absence of a lusty Husband. But not long after, he walking with her in his Hand in the back-yard, chanc'd to see a Game-Cock which he took great Delight in, sitting very Moopish in the Sun asleep, rejecting the Society of his fruitful Mistresses: Pray thee Sweet Heart, quoth he, what ails my Cock, which droops and hangs his Head thus? Which pertly, answer'd, *Indeed my Dear, I do not know, unless he has lately ridden Post.*

A brisk Taylor with his long Bill, came by appointment to attend a great Lord, to be pay'd his Money, where having waited a great while below in the Hall, was call'd up Stairs, where the Lord told him, that as yet he had no Money for him: But in the intrim, there was brought up his Lordship's Breakfast, part of which was brought up in a Silver Porringer; and another full the Lord commended to be fetch'd for his Taylor: who bowed, and very demurely accepted of, and as Heartily eat it, giving his Lordship Thanks, and receiving new

Commands

commands for his next attendance ) he departed, going  
into his Cutting-room ; where having not been  
using his Sheers, but he was fit for his Bodkin, his  
tooth beginning to stir, provok'd him to call up his Wife,  
which presently came, and with whom he easily prevail'd,  
pleasing her as well as himself, and very highly with a  
sweet Kiss, dismiss'd her till further orders : For it hap-  
pen'd that within a few Hours after, he call'd for her  
again and again ; upon which, having done, she desired  
him to tell her how this pleasant, but strange, sudden,  
and unwounded Alteration came, and what it was made  
him so Gamesome ? To which Question, he made this  
reply, telling her very Dolefully, That he had been  
with such a Lord, and he could not pay him that Bill  
that Morning, but put him off as he had formerly done :  
But indeed Wife, quoth he, he order'd me such a Porrin-  
ger of good Broth, which I think has wrought these Vi-  
cious Effects in me. To which, the good Woman said,  
Husband ! Dear Husband ! the Times are hard, and it  
may be the good Lord wants Money. Prethee my Love,  
let us then take out all the Bill in such Broth, which  
was good and sober Advice.

A Country-man sent his Maid to the Mill with some  
Grift, where the Miller seeing her to be a Bucksome Lass,  
Kiss'd her, and gave her it seems that which she wanted,  
yet more then she look'd for : The Wench coming home,  
cried always, Here's a Miller with all my Heart : At  
which, her Dame suspecting more than wound ring, went  
her self with the next Grift ; and the good natur'd Mil-  
ler serv'd her accordingly to expectation, as he did the  
Maid ; which made her come home in the same Tone and  
Tune, and jumping up and down, and saying nothing, But  
here's a Miller with all my Heart. The contented Man  
amaz'd to find them both in the same Tone, and he would  
he told them go himself with the next Grift, to find  
out the Mystery ; which coming to the Mill, and being  
jealous, gave the Miller harsh and bad Words, which  
caus'd the Miller to knock and beat him soundly, but af-  
ter another manner than he had done them : Which com-  
ing home, and sitting down in his Chair, said, And here's  
a Miller with all my Heart ; and the Wench overhearing,



ran to her Dame, telling her of it; and adding witha  
Verily Dame, I think, and believe just as the Miller serv  
you and I, he hath given the same sweet Sawce to m  
honest Master: which overhearing, said, You and th  
Miller shall go the Devil for me; and with the Grist too  
and be Pox'd, before I go again: Which pleas'd all partie

A very Merry and Witty quibbling Lady, Cutting up  
Pig at a Feast; ask'd an honest Gentleman, whom sh  
had often out-witted, and put upon, Whether he love  
Pig; or as the *Scotch* calls it, Sow's Baby, and whethe  
or no she should help him to some? To which, he inno  
cently, but wittily, reply'd, Madam! I thank you: For  
I must assure you that I Love (and Eat) nothing that  
comes from a Sow: Which made the Company a little  
Merry.

A Young the Citizen born, being newly Married, but  
never in all her Life a Traveler farther, then she could  
hear the sound of *Bow-Bell*: Her Husband at the long Va  
cation, went with her into the Country an Airing, to  
drink the Waters, and stay some Weeks; and going wit  
her through a Meadow where was a Tree, and upon one  
of the Boughs thereof, a Mole-catcher had hanged up ma  
ny Moles and Wants, which the City Lady espying, said  
Oh Husband! what a Solitary Life do we live in the City  
for there we have no such fine Black-puddings grow  
Pray let get us one of those Trees, to set in our Cit  
Garden, to see if it will grow, and bring forth Fruit  
there or no.

The same seeing a Goose with many Goslings, said  
How is it possible that one Goose should Suckle so many  
young Ones, since few of us can only suckle One.

A Country Curate coming to *Cambridge*, to take his  
Degree of Master of Arts; was asked by an Head of a  
House, (whereof the Curate was a small Member) how  
he durst, being so Green and Illiterate, enter himself into  
the Ministry, and take the Cure of Souls? To which  
he replyed, That the Lord had need of him. Verily  
said the other, I never heard that the Lord had need of  
any thing but an Ass.

A Country Parson ask'd a pert Lad, How many Commandments there were? Nine Sir, says he. You are mistaken, says the Parson, for there are ten: No, but I am not, replies the Boy, for you have broke one with your Maid Joan.

The same Youth desir'd the Parson to answer him one Question, seeing he had gratified him so willingly, With all my Heart, quoth the Doctor; then said the Lad, Who made these Oxen? God, says the Parson. You lye, adds the Boy, for God made them Bulls, but my Father made them Oxen.

A Young Lady providing her self with an Husband, unknown to her Father, when it came to be discover'd, her Dad was very angry for a time; but however, having a particular tendernefs for her, was soon reconcil'd, when she came for his Blessing, he told her, Nothing troubled him so much, as to think what unpleasant Days she would have with that bad Husband she was Tyed to. Oh Sir, says she, I hope I shall have the pleasanter Nights.

A Country Gentleman's eldest Son Marrying a Lame Lady; a double Match was propos'd of Marrying the Young Gentleman's Sister (defective in her Eye-sight) to the same Lady's Brother: Ay, says a Witty Wo-

man of the same Family, Faith, it will do very well, e'en turn tail to tail, and ne'er tell Portions; 'Tis but a Blind Jade for a Lame Stallion.

A Lusty Lads that had a Sweet Heart, who press'd her mightily for a Nights Lodging, at length she consented to it; and having conducted him through her Master's Chamber into her's, (which was an inward Room) to Bed they went, and he soon falling asleep without Embracing her, she takes him out upon her Back, and passing through her Master's Chamber, carried him to the Stairs-head and threw him down to the bottom. What's that Hussy, says her Master, that you threw down the Stairs? Nothing, Sir, but the Greyhound-whelp. Why, adds he, you might as well have broke his Leggs. 'Tis no matter, says she, if I had broke his Neck, if he were no better for the Hare than he is for the Coney.

A Nun in *Portugal* being with Child, and near her time, feeling the Pangs, sent in all haste to the Lady Abbess, to come to her Assistance, who being then a Bed with a Fryar; instead of her Veyl, whipp'd on her Gallant's Breeches, and in the hurry went in that Dress to the Nun's Labour; no sooner was she enter'd the Room, but she began to rattle the poor Nun for Violating her Chastity: Who



in as much pain as she was) said, Mend your Veil Madam, mend your Veil Madam.

A Drunken Fellow reeling against a Post in the Night, fancying it a rational Animal, (which is more than he was) fell a drubbing it; one passing by, said, 'Tis a Post that you are beating. Damn him, replys the Fellow, then let him blow his Horn:

A Gentleman advising a Friend of his to Marry, and he would help him to a good Wife, but he feared he would not like her, because she was a Tayler's Daughter: Is she very Rich, quoth his Friend? Yes says the Gentleman: Then, adds the other, I care not if it be the Devil's Daughter.

A Drunken Fellow going, or rather reeling along the Streets, stumbled against a Door: upon which one ask'd, If he intended to beat the Door down? No indeed, don't I Friend, says he, for your Door must stand, else I must fall.

A Perjur'd Rascal having lost both his Ears, to conceal it, wore his Hair very long: one of his new Acquaintance ask'd him, Why he did not Cut his Hair shorter? Nay, says he, that I dare not for my Ears.

A Thatcher being at Work on the ridge of

a lofty Barn, and all the Thatch loose between him, his Feet gave way, and still as he felt himself falling, losing his hold as fast as he tumbled, he cried out, Lord bless me, Lord help me, very often; but coming to the Eaves, and seeing what great distance there was betwixt him and the Ground, Z——ds, says he, what a great Fall I am like to have!

A Sturdy Beggar coming to a Gentleman's House in the Country, staid hovering about the House for some time, and at last he came to the great Gate, and knock'd very furiously; out came the Gentleman himself, Fellow, says he, what would you have? Who instead of speaking, made a noise with his Tongue, as if he were Dumb; How long (says the Gentleman, very quickly, have you been Dumb? But three Weeks Sir, replies the Beggar. So he sent him to the House of Correction.

A Mason mending a Country Church, was held in a Chair by a Rope, by one of his Men that stood below in the Church-yard; the Mason spying a Hare coming towards the Church, and being an old Sportsman, cried out to some Gentlemen (who had Dogs in Strings in their Hands) Let go, Let go, with that the Fellow that held him in the Chair, let go, down comes he, and he had like to have broke his Neck.

## *The way to be Witty.*

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A Gentleman being at a Gossipping, Kifs'd all the Ladies but one, and making a boggle at her, the Company took notice of it, and almost put the poor Lady out of Countenance, the Gentleman said, he would have Kifs'd her, but that her Nose was so long, he could not come at her Lips for it; Then, says she, you may Kifs my Bum, I am sure there is no Nose to offend you.

An Innocent Lady that was very curious to see *Bedlam*, desired her Husband to go along with her, to shew her it, which in Complaisance did; being come there, she ask'd one of the Madmen if he had a Wife? A Wife, says he, no I thank God, I an't so Mad yet.

A Pleasant Fellow being a Bed, diverting himself with waggish Thoughts, cou'd not Sleep, but by and by hears a Knot of Thieves under his Window, preparing to break into the House, up he gets, opens the Window, and calls out to them, saying, Gentlemen, you are two Hours too soon, for we are not all asleep yet. Which scared the Rogues quite away.

A Country-man that had been in *London* three Years, at his return home, a Neighbour, ask'd him what a fine place *White-hall* was, and whether he had seen it? No, says he, nor the *Tower* neither: Why, how so, replys



his Neighbour, Why faith, adds he, the Keeper of the *Counter* was a damn'd ill natur'd Fellow, and would not let me stir out to see any thing.

An Alderman of *Norwich*, having a Maid-servant Married from his House, went two or three Years after to see her, and ask'd (amongst other questions) how many Children she had? Truly Sir, says she, none. O Lord, replies he, what should be the reason of that? I don't know, says the Woman. Alas! adds the Old Fellow, now I remember me, your Mother had none.

A Country Gentleman having a very ill-natur'd Wife, who upon the least occasion, (and sometimes without any) would be Sul-len for a long time; in one of her fits, her Husband came to her, and told her she must dress her self, and go abroad to a Friend's House with him, which she did, but spoke not a word; so both being mounted, he carries her into a large Broom-field, and Rides backwards and forwards for above an Hour; when she ask'd him, what made him ride up and down that Field so often? Answers he, 'Twas only to find your Tongue, and now I have found it, we will go home again.

A Gentleman having a Gadding Wife, one  
Day

Day lock'd her up, his back was no sooner turn'd, but whip she went out of the Window, so he shut the Doors against her, and swore she should never come in again; at last by intercession of her Father and Mother, he was reconciled to her; the Old Folks came home with the Young Woman to set all to rights, no sooner was her Father and Mother got in at Doors, but the Husband flip'd in, and shut the Door against his Wife: Nay, Son, says the Old Dad, that is not fair, did you not say you would take your Wife, and be Friends? Yes, I did, and will, replies the Son-in-Law, but in good Faith, she shall come in at the place she went out, and so she was forc'd, and then all was well.

A Fellow that had a horrid Scolding Wife, and could not tell what to do with, her at last resolv'd on a Project; one Day as she was opening at him, he laid hold of the Pestle and broke her Wrist, and then her Arm; then she cried out, and said, She would never Scold again: You may as you like this, (says he) for by Gingo, I will break all the Bones in your Body, but I'll be at quiet.

An Old Fop fond of a long Beard, which hung down almost to his Waste; as he stood talking with a Gentleman by a Coach, one of the Horses taking it for a wisp of Hay, stretch'd out his Head and snapt at it, the

Old Fellow was scared, and said, A Pox on the Horfe, and the Master for keeping him so hungry.

A silly Old Man meeting his God-Son ask'd him where he was going? To School replys the Boy. That is well, said the Old Man, there's a penny for you, be a good Boy and mind your Book, I hope I shall live to hear thee Preach my Funeral Sermon.

A silly Old Fellow that had not much Wit to spare, seeing his Son playing some Roguish Tricks; Why Sarrah, said he, did you ever see me do so, when I was a Boy as you are.

A Foolish clownish Fellow, being newly come to a considerable Estate, after the Death of the Old Miser his Father, grew very Covetous, he hearing his Steward say, he had Killed the Fattest Bullock in the Flock, against *Christmas*. What, said he, do you mean to Ruin me, by such extravagant Expences? I will have but half a one Killed at a time.

A Notorious old Offender being brought to the Bar, and knowing his Case to be very dangerous, cried aloud to the People, I charge you in the King's Name to seize and take away that Man, (meaning the Judge in the Red Gown) for I go in danger of my Life because of him.



A Soldier Quartering in Cambridge, often observ'd a Young Country Wench that Sold Piggs a Market-Days, whereupon he went to her, and desir'd to see some of her Pigs, he having seen several, he said, he would have one that was alive, so she shewed him one that she had in a Bag: Well, Sweet-heart, said he, I live hard by, I will go and shew the Pig to my Captain, if he like it, you shall have three Shillings for it, but in the mean time I will leave the Money with you; thus having got the Pig tied up in the Bag, he went to his Lodging, and put a Dog in the Bag instead of it, and returning quickly to the Damsel, said his Captain did not like the Pig, and therefore she took the Bag without looking into it, and gave him his Money again. Not long after came a French Man in haste to buy a Pig, he not liking those that were Dead, would have a live One: Sir, said she, I have one of the same bigness alive, the Price of it is three Shillings, I will not sell it a Farthing cheaper; well, said he, if you will not, here is your Money, but how shall I carry it? Why, for a Groat you shall have the Poke and all. *Poke, what is dat?* said Monsieur, 'Tis a Bag: *Is dat de Poke?* well here's a Groat. Thus away he goes with his Bargain home, but when he comes to look in the Poke, he see the Dog, *O de diable,* (said he) *is dis de Pig? de Dible take me, if I do buy Pig in de Poke agen.*

A Young Cambridge Schollar following a Young Maid, he lik'd her very well behind, but looking in her Face, found she had a very large Nose: Well, says he to her, if I had liked you before, as well as I did behind, I would have Kissed you. Pray Sir, says she, Kiss where you like. But it is your Nose that I mislike: Why, in that place that I appointed you to Kiss, I had never Nose there.

A Young Woman living in the Strand, being newly Married, us'd to lie a Bed after her Husband, he being underneath in his Shop, as she was playing her Tricks above, for she tried to pull her Heel over her Neck, which being done, she could not get it back again, but with turning tumbled of the Bed, her Husband hearing a great Noise above, sent up his Prentice (he being a raw Country Boy) to see what was the matter, who came down and told his Master, that his Mistress was Bewitch'd, and turn'd into an Owl, and that she had fallen of the Bed, and with her fall had got a great Gash in her Shoulder.

A Famous Knight of *Cheshire* had a Lady, who always fancied to have her Woman lie in a Trundle-Bed under hers, to be ready to rise to fetch any thing, as Cordial-water, &c. if her Ladyship happen'd to be taken ill in the Night; the Husband was against it, and said, It was indecent, and infringed their freedom:

dom: But the Lady would have it so, and that was enough. Sometime after the Lady's Woman began to look very round, so being Catechiz'd, she confess'd Sir *William* had been in with her, and Huffy, says my Lady, why did not you cry out? And please you Madam, replies the Woman, I did not hear your Ladyship do so.

The same Mettled Gentleman in a pleasant Humour, ask'd the Lady, If she would go and drink a Bottle of Wine, and eat some Fruit with him, in one Summers afternoon, in one of the new Arbors he had just finish'd, and which hung over the Road; to which she consented, and as they were there eating and drinking, and talking Merrily, a parcel of Heglers came by, says one to the other, Do you know whose fine House that is? No, not I, yet one replied, One of the greatest Cuckold's in *England* lives there. Pray Madam, says Sir *William* to his Wife, give me your Hand and let us be gon, for we know by the Market-Folks how the Market goes.

A Citizen of *London* coming down the River from his Country-house with his Wife, amongst other Questions, ask'd the Waterman what News? Faith Master, says he, I don't hear any considerable Matter, but this Morning one of my Fraternity told me, there was a Law lately made, That all Cuckolds must



must be Drown'd. Oh Lord Husband, say the Citizen's Wife, can you Swim?

An Archer being near a Crowd of Spectators, nicking an Arrow, as if he intended to shoot, cries out with an high Voice, Now have at a Cuckold: A good Woman (thinking he levell'd that way, and her Husband being near her) call'd out to him, Have a care Husband, pray have a care. Why you silly Jade, I am no Cuckold, am I? No, no, says she, but you can't tell how plaguily an Arrow may glance.

A *Quaker* sold an Horse to a Gentleman, who after having paid the Money, desired him to tell him cordially, what faults he had: Says the *Quaker* to the Gentleman, Dost thou see any in him? No, replies the Gentleman. Why then verily, says the *Quaker*, he sees none in thee.

A *Quaker* having pick'd up a Wench, carried her to a Tavern, and treated her with Burnt Claret, of which they both drank plentifully; the Lady told the *Quaker*, that she must beg of him to look out at the Window whilst she made Water, for her Modesty would not permit her to do it before a Man; he gratified her, in the mean time she run down Stairs with the Silver Boats, out of which they drank the Hot Wine, and he was forc'd

ay forc'd to pay for them. Sometime after going with another *Quaker* down *Abchurch-lane*, in the way, he said to his Friend, It begins to Rain, we had best take a Coach to the other end of the Town: Ay, says a Gentlewoman (leaning over a Hatch, that had heard of this Story, a Coach will be cheaper to thee than a Boat.

A Coach full of Ladies being overturn'd, and their Heels happening to be out at the upper side, one of them feeling it cold, call'd to her Page just at hand, to pull down her Cloaths to cover her Bum. The Page replied, Indeed Madam, among so many, I know not which it is.

A Soldier amongst other Spectators, must needs stop, and gape at a Parrot that hung out in *St. James's-street*, and talk'd very plainly; Out you Pockey Dog, says the Parrot. Pox on the Parrot, says the Soldier, I believe he means me, for I have been maul'd; G—d, I think the Bird's a Witch.

An Old Bawd being Convicted before a Justice of Peace, for keeping an unlawful House, stoutly denied it. How, says the Justice, Hussy do you deny it? I say you do keep a naughty House, and I will maintain it. Would you be so good as your word Sir, replies she, then I shall have a good Trade and live well.

A Tradesman coming to the *Horns Inn* in *Cateaten-street, London*, to meet one of his Country-Chapmen, which he had appointed accordingly, but not knowing the House, ask'd a Prentice at a Door, Where the Sign of the Horns were? He happening to stand just under the Sign, says the Lad, Lord Sir! can't you see them? they are just over your Head.

At a Tryal at the Bar, a Witness being produced that had an Enameled Nose; a Sergeant at Law (Council on the other side) for to daunt him, spoke quickly to him, Now Sir, you are sworn, what can you say with your Copper Nose? Why Sir, replied he, by the Oath I have taken, I would not change my Copper Nose with your Brazen Face.

Mr. Noy (afterwards Attorney General to King *Charles* the First,) having small Practice, and being poor, was very diligent in attending the Courts at *Westminster*; one Day observ'd where the Pinch of the Cause lay, told the Defendant, If she wou'd give him his Fee, he wou'd get the Cause for her, or give her her Money again, agree'd, said she. The Cause was in short thus, Three Drovers had left 100 *li* with a Victualler to lay up for them, bidding her not to deliver it to any of them, except all three came for it, she forgot that Charge, and deliver'd it to one, the other two Sued



Sued her for it. Up steps Mr. Noy; nay, when it was going against the Woman, My Lord, one word, says he, for the Defendant, We own we receiv'd the Money, and we have it by us, and when the three Men come together, we are ready to pay it. And so carried the Cause for the Woman; for the Rogue that received the Money was run away.

A Young Fellow in the City, having got a Wench up against a Church-wall, and being busie, she at the same time was drawing his Watch by the Chain easily out of his Pocket, and when she had it fast in her Hand, she cried out aloud, The Watch is coming, (the Watch-house being near) scar'd the Fellow, so she run away with the Watch.

A poor Ignorant Old Woman being at Church, heard a most Excellent Sermon, being the *Jewish* Cruel Crucifixion of our Saviour, which drew Tears from her Eyes; the Sermon being over, she came to the Church-Wardens, and ask'd them, how long ago since that Barbarous Fact was done? They told her above Sixteen Hundred Years. Then she demanded, How far off it was? They said, almost Three Thousand Miles. Alas! says she, a great while ago, and a great way off, a Grace of God it may not be true.

A Lady

and treated him most Magnificently; however, all on a sudden my Lord swooned away, Water was sprinkled in his Face, and his Nose pinch'd, at last he came to himself, but immediately swooned again; then the Lady that treated, begg'd the Gentleman that came along with the Lord, (and who was his Companion) to tell her the cause of his Lordship's fainting away? God, I don't know, says he, but it may be at the sight of the Pig. Why then Sir, replies the Lady, would not you say so before, and it should have been carried off the Table? Faith Madam, adds he, I thought we had better lose the Lord than the Pig.

*Ralph of Gloucester* a noted Fool, (tho' not such a Fool neither as was thought) being one Day in the Shambles of that City, and meeting the Mayor, Aldermen, and principal Inhabitants there, to whom he was well known: Well honest *Ralph*, says Mr. Mayor, what News have you to Day? Truly, Master Mayor, replies *Ralph*, very great News. What is it, adds the Mayor? Indeed, quoth *Ralph*, I never yet saw so many Sheep's-Heads in the Shambles at one time in my Life, as I do now.



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